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ACADEMICIAN REVIEWS DEVELOPMENT OF ARMS RACE

WA0816O0 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 6 (Signed to Press 1 Feb 83) p 5

["From Alamogordo to..." by Valeriy Davydov, candidate of historical sciences and senior research associate at the Institute of U.S. and Canadian Studies of the USSR Academy of Sciences"]

[Text] More than 1,300 nuclear weapon tests were conducted in various countries from 1945 to 1982. According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute [SIPRI], these tests have been made at the rate of approximately one a week since 1978. The continuation of tests means the continuation of the arms race. Putting an end to this process was the aim of the Soviet initiative at the 37th UN General Assembly Session. The USSR proposed that an international Treaty on the Complete and Universal Banning of Nuclear Weapon Tests be elaborated and signed without delay, and called for a moratorium on all nuclear blasts for the period of the talks. The vast majority of the UN member-countries approved the Soviet initiative.

Now, 37 years after the first experimental nuclear blast in Alamogordo, nobody has the slightest doubt that if it had also been the last such blast, then today the world would not possess such a diversified arsenal of nuclear arms, numbering 50,000 units and capable of liquidating all life on earth.

A complete ban on nuclear tests would arrest the qualitative nuclear arms race, because new, more sophisticated nuclear weapon systems now being developed might turn out to be uncontrollable.

The qualitative nuclear arms race provides the material foundation for the horrendous doctrines of "limited" and "protracted" nuclear war, and creates the dangerous illusion that a nuclear war can not only be waged, but won.

Two Lines

The United States was the first country to test nuclear weapons. The USSR was the first to wage the struggle for a complete ban on their testing. In 1955 the USSR presented to the UN Disarmament Commission a proposal calling for an end to A- and H-bomb tests, stressing that this problem was of paramount importance and should be solved, irrespective of the course of discussions on other questions. In 1958, yielding to public pressure, the United States and Great Britain were forced to start talks on this issue, but they did everything possible to reject the Soviet Union's proposal on the complete cessation of such tests. The Treaty on Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Underwater was signed in 1963, but it did not cover underground tests.

The 1963 Treaty did not stop the arms race. The United States, still the leader in this race, made 390 blasts between 1963 and 1981, as compared with 293 between 1945 and 1963. After 1963 the USA tested and supplemented its arsenal with the MIRV missile, the cruise missile and the neutron bomb.

In June 1974 at the Soviet-U.S. summit in Moscow, the USSR proposed a treaty on the complete banning of nuclear weapon tests. Washington, however, agreed to sign only the Treaty on the Limitation of Underground Tests of devices with a yield of more than 150 kilotons. To this day the U.S. Senate has failed to ratify the treaty.

In 1977, yielding to pressure from the peace forces, the United States agreed to start talks with the USSR on the complete banning of tests (Great Britain also joined in the talks). Almost the entire text of the treaty had been agreed upon during the talks (1977- 1980); only a few provisions, mainly technical ones, were left to be finalized.

Western experts and the mass media stressed that the Soviet Union's constructive and flexible stand made it possible to overcome many problems at the talks, and that the prospect of signing the treaty was becoming a reality.

However, the signing did not take place. In 1980 the United States unilaterally broke off the tripartite talks, and the Reagan administration declared that the signing of the treaty was "inopportune."

At the 37th UN General Assembly Session the United States voted against the Soviet proposal calling for the immediate cessation and banning of nuclear weapon tests.

What Arguments Are Used

Those in Washington who are trying to justify their opposition to a complete nuclear test ban have put forward a whole number of arguments. Pentagon experts, directors of the military atomic laboratories in Los Alamos and Livermore, spokesmen from the Department of Energy, i.e, all those directly involved at the present time in the manufacture of nuclear weapons, declare that the tests are necessary to "preserve the reliability" of the U.S. nuclear capability.

The theory that nuclear substances are "rotting" in their warheads is also being widely circulated, as this supposedly makes it obligatory to conduct regular tests to determine the condition of the radioactive material. However, as the majority of U.S. disarmament experts declare, such reliability tests in fact were never held in the past because they were simply unnecessary. Today, sufficiently reliable alternatives to nuclear tests exist for checking on the state of fissionable materials in warheads. Prominent U.S. experts formerly involved in the manufacture of nuclear devices also confirm this.

Another "argument" of the opponents of a test ban boils down to the claim that the USSR "cannot be trusted". They declare that even after the treaty is signed there will still be opportunities to stage secret tests, and that in low-yield underground tests it will be hard to verify what occurred -- a nuclear blast or an earthquake.

Authoritative experts reject this claim, stating that the national means of verification are rather well developed and that the means of registering seismic phenomena are sufficiently sensitive to be able to differentiate artificial from natural vibrations. The treaty fulfilment verification and control procedure, already agreed upon at the tripartite talks (1977-1980), is an indication that, granted a constructive approach, this problem can be solved.

The U.S. emphasis on control problems is absolutely unjustified. According to Alva Myrdal, the Swedish disarmament expert who was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1982, "The control problem has been exaggerated and serves to camouflage the reluctance to reach an agreement."

A Secret Coalition

The arguments and tactics resorted to by the opponents of a complete nuclear test ban are far from new. U.S. disarmament experts have declared many times that a secret coalition has long existed in the United States, including people from the Pentagon, the atomic laboratories, the Department of Energy and certain Congressmen closely linked to the industrial firms receiving contracts for the preparation and staging of the tests at the proving ground in Nevada.

The coalition made itself felt way back in the 50's, when talks were held on a partial nuclear test ban. At the same time a campaign to torpedo the talks was launched under the pretext of "protecting national security interests". It was then that Edward Teller, the father of the H-bomb (and former presidential science advisor), trying to

throw a scare into the Senators, declared that if they ratified this treaty, the United States would not have a future. Today, Teller condemns the concept of a nuclear arms freeze, which would also include an end to testing, in much the same words. He said in an interview with TIME magazine that if the nuclear freeze were accepted, the United States would be non-existent by 1990.

The Real Reason Why

A secret memorandum issued by atomic laboratories specializing in R & D work on new nuclear weapons became public in 1982. It explained why it is unprofitable for the United States to agree to a complete nuclear test ban. Behind the "con" arguments was a single idea: it is impossible to develop new, more effective types of nuclear weapons within tests.

The unprecedented plan adopted in October 1981 for the beefing up of the U.S. nuclear arsenal calls for the completion, within the next 10 years, of 16 projects in the area of modernization and development of new warheads and charges, including those for the MX, Trident-1 and Trident-2 ballistic missiles; land-, air- and sea-based long-range cruise missiles, and Pershing-2 missiles for the B-1B and Stealth bombers. The Pentagon directives for the decade provide for the production of at least 23,000 new nuclear warheads. However, that is hardly the upper limit. The Pentagon's atomic laboratories are developing new generations of nuclear weapons -- Pershing-3 missiles, modernized ABM systems, satellite weapons, etc.

All this is initiating a new round in the arms race with the intention of securing military superiority for the United States and building up the material base for the waging of nuclear war. And that is really the main reason why the United States rejects the idea of a complete nuclear test ban. No wonder the number of tests carried out in 1982 was considerably greater than in 1981. And the Department of Energy, in its proposed budget for 1983, requested that allocations for testing be doubled over the 1980 figure. Official spokesmen for the administration do not rule out the conducting of tests exceeding the 150 kiloton limit.

The hope that new nuclear weapon systems can secure military superiority for the United States is an illusion. As history shows, no matter what weapons the United States has and no matter how many of them, the USSR can produce a suitable counterweight. However, the U.S. plans for military superiority will inevitably lead to a new destabilizing round in the arms race, which threatens to cancel out the accords already achieved and render the achievement of any results at the talks on the limitation and reduction of nuclear weapons totally impossible.

Nuclear Non-Proliferation or the Expansion of the Nuclear 'Club'

A treaty on the complete banning of nuclear tests would not only break the vicious circle of the arms race and create favourable conditions for achieving tangible results in nuclear disarmament. Its signing would create a major obstacle on the road to further proliferation of nuclear weapons all over the world.

To date some 50 countries have not yet signed the 1968 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. They include South Africa, Israel and Pakistan, which are all working feverishly to get nuclear weapons, reserving the right to conduct nuclear tests, a necessary step in the development of such weapons.

South Africa's intention to stage a nuclear test in the Kalahari Desert in 1977 was frustrated only because of a timely warning on the part of the USSR. A mysterious bright flash, which could have been a nuclear test, was observed in 1979 off the coast of South Africa. The world press has written much about the preparations being carried out in Pakistan for future nuclear tests. The danger from these "near-nuclear" states could be nullified by a global ban on nuclear tests.

The test-ban treaty would do much to improve conditions for non-proliferation. A number of states with a well-developed nuclear industry, such as Argentina, Brazil and India, explain their refusal to join the non-proliferation treaty by stating that the treaty demands the permament rejection of nuclear weapons by the non-nuclear states, while the nuclear powers continue to modernize and stockpile their own nuclear weapons, staging tests of nuclear devices in the process.

It is hardly possible that such nuclear powers as France and China will stop further tests if a complete test-ban treaty is not signed. According to SIPRI, from 1963 to 1981 France conducted 100 tests, and China 26.

The more than 100 non-nuclear countries, signatories to the non-proliferation treaty, are unanimous in demanding that the nuclear powers demonstrate preparedness to fulfil their commitments under Article VI of the treaty -- to put an end to the nuclear arms race, and to stop all nuclear tests. Only in such a case can the effectiveness of international policies in non-proliferation be guaranteed.

The threat of contamination of the earth by radioactive fallout was greatly reduced as a result of the 1963 treaty. But underground nuclear tests have also contaminated the environment many times. In 1970 a leak of radioactive substances caused the contamination of 250 square miles of land in Nevada. Near the underground testing sites American physicians have observed a growth in the rate of child mortality due to cancer. For example, in Utah it increased by 140 per cent from 1959 to 1967.

Scientists say that subterranean waters may be contaminated by radioactive fallout and that high-yield blasts can lead to earthquakes.

The USSR proposal for a complete and universal ban on nuclear weapon tests was evaluated by the majority of countries as a major step along the road towards delivering humanity from nuclear war and ending the nuclear arms race. The world's nations have the right to expect and demand that the other nuclear powers approach the question of a complete nuclear test ban in a constructive manner.

The Political Declaration adopted at the meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member-states declares that the Treaty on the Complete and Universal Banning of Nuclear Weapon Tests must be elaborated as soon as possible. The participants in the meeting welcomed the expansion, in recent years, of the number of states who have signed the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and expressed the hope that those states that have not yet signed would do so in the near future.

USSR PROPOSES REACTOR CONTROL TALKS WITH IAEA

LD091128 Moscow TASS in English 1116 GMT 9 Feb 83

[Text] Vienna February 9 TASS -- In keeping with the statement by the Soviet Union at the second special session on disarmament of the U.N. General Assembly about its readiness to place a part of Soviet peaceful nuclear plants -- several nuclear-power stations and research reactors under the control of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Soviet side proposed [to] Hans Blix, director-general of the agency, that talks be started on that issue between the USSR and the IAEA in May-June this year.

U.S. ALLEGATIONS ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS REJECTED

LD042135 Moscow World Service in English 1700 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Text] The Soviet representative at the United Nations Disarmament Committee, Viktor Israelyan, has rejected American allegations that the Soviet Union and its allies have been using chemical weapons in Afghanistan and Southeast Asia. He told the committee's session in Geneva that lies would still be lies no matter how often repeated.

He also answered the allegations made there by the American vice president, George Bush. The vice president claimed that Washington had been giving primary significance to efforts to ban chemical weapons. However, this contradicted the generally known fact that the United States had used poisonous chemicals during its aggression in Vietnam. Its chemical warfare has affected 10 million Vietnamese and the effects of it will continue to make themselves felt for many dozens of years to come.

LUXEMBOURG MBFR DELEGATE'S SPEECH CRITICIZED

LD032238 Moscow TASS in English 1740 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] Vienna February 3 TASS -- A plenary meeting today at the Vienna talks on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe was addressed by the head of Luxembourg's delegation, Ambassador Molitor. His speech boiled down to repeating the original unconstructive stand of the NATO countries set forth in their draft treaty of June 8 last year.

A spokesman for the Soviet delegation told newsmen that the speech showed that the Western side stuck to its old position, did not take into account the legitimate interests of their partners in the talks and did not seek solution of outstanding issues.

This conclusion is confirmed by the fact that the Western representative kept silent on the new initiatives of the socialist countries, advanced at the recent meeting of the Warsaw Treaty member-states in Prague.

The proposal, contained in the Prague Political Declaration, on the reduction of armed forces and armaments of the Soviet Union and the United States in Central Europe on the basis of the mutual example with the subsequent freeze of the levels of the armed forces and armaments of all the direct participants would make it possible to break the impasse at the Vienna talks and set them in motion towards achieving an accord on further, bigger reductions.

The Warsaw Treaty member-states, the Soviet spokesman stressed, hope that the Western side will display a constructive attitude to this proposal.

TASS REPORTS INF DELEGATIONS MEET 8 FEB

LD081252 Moscow TASS in English 1225 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] Geneva February 8 TASS -- A plenary meeting of the delegations of the USSR and the USA at the talks on the limitation of nuclear arms in Europe was held here today.

TASS NOTES RESUMPTION OF MADRID CSCE SESSION

LD082131 Moscow TASS in English 1857 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] Madrid February 8 TASS -- The Madrid meeting of the member states of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe resumed its work here today. The opening session was addressed by Spain's Foreign Minister Fernando Moran. He called on all participants to direct their efforts into consolidation of detente and passing from the phase of confrontation to dialogue.

During the exchange of views, the head of the Czechoslovak delegation Ilja Gulinski outlined the common approach of the socialist community to the Madrid meeting expounded in the Political Declaration of the Warsaw Treaty member states, adopted in Prague.

Also held today was a meeting of the editorial group set up to work out a draft of the Madrid meeting's final document.

Kovalev Comments

LD082043 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Correspondent Igor Kudrin report from Spain]

[Text] The next series of meetings of the representatives of 35 states taking part in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe opened today in Madrid. Local political observers and journalists accredited to Spain sometimes refer to the meeting as a diplomatic marathon. Indeed, this major international forum has been dragging on. Including a temporary halt in the sessions, it has now entered its 3d year. Of course, its work has been affected by the recent complex international situation. Today, it is appropriate to ask oneself: Have all delegations from the very start of the meeting been interested in its quick and successful completion? The first plenary session of the current stage ended several hours ago. Answering the question by a correspondent from Gosteleradio as to whether the prospects promised a favorable completion of the Madrid meeting, the head of the Soviet delegation, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Comrade Kovalev, pointed out that unfortunately, this could not yet be said. It is important that all delegations realize the seemingly obvious truth: equal success of the Madrid meeting was in the present and future interests of all states taking part in the all-European conference. In order for the meeting to arrive at positive results, it is necessary to desist from further attempts here to incite fruitless confrontations, to interfere in internal affairs and to present proposals known to be unacceptable to other parties. The head of the Soviet delegation stressed in conclusion that it is necessary to show real political will on the part of all state delegations that are participating. The Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries have such a will. This will is clearly expressed in the Prague declaration of the Warsaw Pact member states.

CSCE, Arms Talks

LD081852 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 8 Feb 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] The meeting of representatives of countries participating in the general European CSCE conference resumed today in Madrid. Here is political observer Eduard Mnatsakanov:

Hello comrades. The representatives of 33 European countries, and also the United States and Canada, have again sat down at the conference table. As you know, a special place at the talks is assigned to the achievement of an agreement on convening a conference on measures to strengthen trust and security and disarmament in Europe.

Several days earlier other, extremely important, meetings and talks were resumed. I will remind you of them. On 27 January the Soviet-U.S. talks on the limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe resumed in Geneva. On the same day in Vienna a new, already the 29th, round of talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and weapons in central Europe began. On 1 February, the latest session of the UN Disarmament Committee opened in Geneva at which 40 countries are represented. On 2 February, also in Geneva, Soviet-U.S. talks on the limitation and reduction of strategic weapons resumed.

Of course each of these meetings and talks has its own specific tasks, but they are also united by a common strain. In the final analysis, they are all called to assist in solving the most important contemporary problems -- to curb the arms race, and to limit and reduce weapons, especially nuclear weapons. No task facing humanity today is more important than this.

Like those from the other socialist countries, the Soviet representatives did not arrive in Geneva, Vienna and Madrid with empty hands. New, completely clear, precise and balanced proposals were put on the conference table, proposals that are set out in Comrade Andropov's speeches and the Political Declaration of the Warsaw Pact countries adopted in Prague. These proposals are well known. In the West it is noted with pleasure that the leaders of the socialist countries have come out in support of the successful conclusion of the Madrid meeting. Even the Springer camp is writing this.

However if this is the case we would be justified in expecting some kind of reciprocal steps from Western countries as well. Unfortunately there have been none to date. All that has been heard in the past days in Washington and the NATO capitals closest to it have been empty assurances binding them to nothing. But what about actions? Well, there is still Reagan's same pseudo zero option, preparatory work on the deployment in West Europe of new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles, a plan for the deployment of new strategic missiles, and an increase in the U.S. military budget. All this of course seriously burdens the talks now being conducted.

However, the USSR proceeds from the assumption that, bearing in mind mutual interests and the principle of equality and equal security, the preconditions for a positive conclusion to these talks exists, and our country is full of determination to do all it can to realize these preconditions.

UN RIGHTS PANEL MEMBERS SCORE ISRAELI POLICIES

PM091047 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Feb 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Denunciation of Aggressor"]

[Text] Geneva, 5 Feb -- The participants in the 39th session of the UN Human Rights Commission have continued their discussion of the question of the peoples' right to self-determination and its application to peoples under colonial rule or foreign occupation, and the closely related issue of the violation of human rights on the Arab territories occupied by Israel.

It is extremely noteworthy, V.A. Zorin, the head of the USSR delegation to the 39th session, said in his speech, that both points on the agenda are being examined simultaneously. This attests to the recognition by the majority of the commission members of the fact that the need to halt the flagrant and massive violations of human rights on the Arab territories occupied by Israel is a most urgent task in ensuring the peoples' inalienable right to self-determination.

What is needed to put an end to this evil, he stressed, is the immediate cessation of Israel's aggression and the withdrawal of its troops from all territories occupied since 1967, and recognition of all the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to self-determination and the creation of their own independent state. The Soviet representative pointed out that the PLO must obligatorily participate in the solution of these problems as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The overwhelming majority of the delegates who spoke at the session voiced their angry denunciation of Israel's Zionist regime and its colonialsit polidy.

Sharp criticism was leveled against Israel's main ally in the Near East -- The United States. As the Cuban delegate noted, the economic basis of the Israeli regime largely depends on the capital reaching Israel from the United States.

In turn the Iranian delegate stressed that U.S. imperialism, which is cooperating closely with Israel, is aiming to consolidate its own positions in the Near East with Israel's assistance.

The Malagasy delegate stated that right now it is essential for the international community to take effective steps to ensure universal peace in the Near East based on respect for the Palestinian people's inalienable rights.

NOVOYE VREMYA ON IMPACT OF 'LOCAL CONFLICTS'

PM081137 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 5, 28 Jan 83 pp 5-7

[Article by D. Volskiy: "Local Conflicts and International Security"]

[Text] Essentially the concept of "local conflicts" is becoming highly hypothetical. After all, in the world today everything is closely interconnected as never before. This has been brought about on the one hand by accelerated sociopolitical processes and the universal growth of the masses' self-awareness and on the other by the scientific and technical revolution and the development of the news media, transportation and military technology. There are few remaining remote spots even in countries which used to be considered the "outlying districts" of capitalism. Having freed themselves from colonial dependence, the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America are seeking a fitting place in the sun and the right to dispose of their national resources and choose their paths of development themselves. Here is must not be forgotten that it is a case of the majority of mankind.

Attempts to hinder the natural, law-governed course of events in the "Third World" -- that is primarily what creates hotbeds of tension there fraught with dangers of not only a local but also a global nature, not transient but long-term dangers. It is not merely the countries directly affected by them which are interested in extinguishing these hotbeds, it is a common concern of all peace-loving forces. That is why the Warsaw Pact states stated in the Political Declaration they adopted at their January conference in Prague: "The normalization of the situation in the world is linked to a considerable extent with the elimination of existing hotbeds of military conflicts and the prevention of the emergence of new ones in Asia, Africa, Latin America and other regions."

About 10 such conflict situations can be counted. But the most protracted and dangerous consists in the constant wars which, through Israel's fault, are rending the Near East. The Warsaw Pact countries expressed the conviction that "an all-embracing settlement in the Near East should provide for the complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab territories occupied since 1967, including the eastern part of Jerusalem; the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to create their own independent state; the safeguarding of the right of all states of this region to secure and independent existence and development; the halting of the state of war and the establishment of peace between the Arab states and Israel; the elaboration and adoption of international guarantees of a peace settlement." Here the Warsaw Pact countries stressed that they have a positive attitude toward the principles of a Near East settlement put forward by the Arab states at the recent conference in Fes.

The Prague declaration also assesses positively the start of talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan through a personal representative of the UN secretary general. The declaration stresses that the Warsaw Pact states advocate the cessation of the war between Iraq and Iran and the settlement of vexed questions between them through negotiations and that they advocate the peaceful solution of the conflict between the countries of the Horn of Africa and other disputes in Africa on the basis of mutual respect for independent and territorial integrity. They also advocated the solution of conflict situations in Central and South America by political means.

Essentially, settlement plans have been elaborated for the majority of the most acute of these situations, wherever they may occur. Realistic, considered political programs taking into account the legitimate interests of all sides. Let us recall just the Indochina countries' proposals to the ASEAN countries, the Afghan peace initiatives and the constructive position of the Salvadoran patriotic organizations. Of course, in each case specific provisions according with local conditions are envisaged. But essentially the approach of the champions of peace and justice toward any conflict is the same, based on respect for the peoples' rights. Only on this basis can a truly lasting settlement in any region be built. An if it is so hard to achieve such a settlement -- be it in the Near East, Southern Africa or Central America -- then the reasons are also the same everywhere: the imperialist circles' reluctance to acknowledge the principle of the equal rights of states and peoples and the desire of some countries to dominate others, to exploit their natural resources and use their territory for strategic purposes.

It is not enough that these purposes are amoral and antihumane, attempts to achieve them are of themselves disastrous to mankind -- particularly from the economic viewpoint. "Unless agreement is reached between the developed (capitalist) and developing countries," an eminent New York banker said recently, " then the deteriorating state of the economy will most probably lead to a catastrophe within 2-3 years." U.S. bankers, of course, do not speak of the neocolonialism which creates this threat. But obviously common sense is bound to suggest how dangerous neocolonialism is, how urgently necessary it is to rebuild international economic relations on the basis of justice and equal rights. All the more so since, in an attempt to deprive the peoples of the young states of their legitimate rights, the imperialist circles are counting on two interconnected factors: kindling national, religious and territorial quarrels and violent military methods for the pseudosolution of problems.

In a talk with foreign journalists, Fidel Castro once remarked: Washington is obstinately opposed to the relaxation of tension in Central America becuase it wants to "exterminate the patriotic forces" of the region. And is it not obvious that the U.S. plan for southern Africa, if you think about it, provides for reprisals at the hands of the Republic of South Africa racists against the members of Namibia's liberation organization, the South-West African People's Organization, and the destabilization of the progressive regimes in Angola and Mozambique with the aid of the same racists.

The perfidious proposition concerning the so-called "linkage" of the withdrawal of the Republic of South Africa's colonial occupying troops from Namibia and the evacuation from Angola of the Cuban contingent invited by the Angolan Government is convincing confirmation of this intention on Washington's part.

With the reactionary forces of other countries, the United States is nursing similar designs with respect even to situations in which Washington would not seem to be directly involved. After all, in many countries it is possible to find social forces close to it seeking either to preserve their privileges or to satisfy their hegemonist ambitions. And there are many secret, clandestine means by which the United States can render them not always direct, yet nonetheless, sufficiently unambiguous support. Ever new hundreds and thousands of people are becoming and the victims of this policy.

As for those to whom the Americans extend overt patronage, nothing embarrasses them. The carnage at the Palestinian camps of Sabra and Shatila is the most dramatic but by no means the only example of that. In El Salvador the punitive troops have long made it a practice to annihilate the peasants in entire villages. We can see the same thing now in Guatemala. In Nicaragua gangs of Somoza supporters who have penetrated there, are showing no mercy to anyone, but they are particularly fierce with teachers, for they are afraid of the people's enlightenment. The basmaches sent into Afgahnistan also direct their weapons against teachers and schools. How can we fail to recall here the U.S. figure who once threatened to "hurl Vietnam back to the stone age!" Of course, the inciters of local conflicts cannot do that but the potential consequences of their actions cannot fail to worry us.

Above all the hotbeds of military conflicts in which the pitch of tension is maintained have the property of expanding, extending to neighboring countries and regions. For instance, is it long ago that Lebanon was a peaceful and prosperous state and seemed like an island of stability in the stormy Near East sea? But today, as a result of the Israeli aggression supported by Washington, it has become one of the epicenters of the hotbed of tension and no one can guarantee that the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation will not lead to this hotbed's spread to other Near East states.

Moreover, under present conditions the aggravation of one military conflict frequently promotes flareups in other dangerous zones. Let us recall last year's events. The acute situation in Central America which diverted the Latin Americans' attention was exploited by the British Government in order to organize a military expedition against Argentina to the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands. In turn the war over this archipelago was used -- among other factors -- by the Israeli militarists who had long planned an invasion of Lebanon. And finally under cover of the noise of the shooting in Lebanon, the South African racists activated their undeclared war against Angola, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. And now? It is hard to regard it as pure chance, for instance, that in the same days in January, Washington decided to evacuate the members of U.S. diplomats' families from El Salvador, that London again raised an anti-Argentinian din while Tel Aviv threatened to strike against Syria's air defense forces.

What is this,if not a secret chain reaction, a sort of military-political detonation which can -- particularly under the conditions of the overall aggravation of international tension -- lead to grave complications for the cause of world peace. To all the graver complications in that in the "hot zones" the United States is seeking to establish its own military presence. We can already see this in the Near East, where the Israeli aggressors are obviously paving the way for U.S. troops based there under the flag of the "multinational forces" -- this first happened last spring on Sinai and then in the fall, after the new Israeli aggression, in Lebanon too. Yet according to THE WASHINGTON POST it is none other than "certain U.S. military leaders" who believe that "the presence of U.S. Marines in Lebanon" creates "a time bomb which could explode at any moment."

But is the increasingly extensive participation of U.S. advisers and instructors in the war against the Salvadoran people and in preparing and organizing provocative military onslaughts against Nicaragua not similar to this sort of bomb? Over a year ago the United States created a so-called "regional command" for the Central America and Caribbean region. Its aim was obvious: to safeguard opportunities for the direct participation of U.S. troops in the struggle against liberation movements and progressive states in this region.

And now, as of 1 January, a new U.S. command named the "Central" Command ["Centcom"] has gone into operation. It is directed against an even more important and far vaster zone: 19 countries of the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf -- from Kenya to Iraq and Iran, from Ethiopia to Pakistan and Afghanistan, the backbone of the Central Command, to judge by U.S. press reports, consists of the Rapid Deployment Force specially designed for direct interference in conflict situations wherever Washington announces the creation of its own "spheres of vital interests." It is scarcely necessary to stress the unpredictability of the consequences to which this interference could lead. Particularly if you consider that U.S. nuclear weapons are stored close to many conflict zones, for instance on the island of Diego Garcia.

As recently as mid-January, UPI published secret Pentagon "recommendations" on nuclear war -- a document which, as the agency put it, "makes the blood run cold." And here is what it says about the Persian Gulf region: "We must prepare to send U.S. troops there even if it seems that it is merely a threat to the security of access to oil which has been created." And it adds: "There is no need to wait to be invited by the oil-extracting countries which are our allies." In other words, the Americans appropriate the right to carry out armed intervention at any moment, without considering anyone, merely mentioning that some conflict between Gulf states or internal events in them allegedly threatens oil deliveries. From this it may be understood what NATO Commander in Chief General B. Rogers had in mind when he once said: If a new world war is destined to begin, then it will be on the line running through the Near East, Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean.

In the light of these intentions the warning contained in the Warsaw Pact states' Political Declaration concerning "the danger of local conflicts developing into a world-scale armed clash" seems as timely as could be. This process can be halted if efforts are concentrated on settling these conflicts themselves, renouncing the enlistment of developing states in military blocs and creating zones of peace, primarily in the Indian Ocean. Great significance would attach to a NATO decision to follow the Warsaw Pact's example in not extending its sphere of operation to regions outside its confines, particularly the Persian Gulf. These are all just possibilities so far. To turn them into realities the collaboration of all peace-loving forces is needed. Thus the nonaligned countries are vitally interested in the peaceful solution of conflicts, as was shown, in particular, by the January conference of their Coordination Bureau in Managua. Of course, those circles in the West which want the consolidation of international security should not stand aloof. In brief, the matter affects all mankind. Mankind cannot tolerate the fact that the world is encircled by a chain of hotbeds of war.

BARBIE CASE LINKED WITH U.S. INTELLIGENCE

LD080012 Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] The Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie, who fled to Bolivia after World War II, has been extradited to France where he is to stand trial in Lyons, the city where he committed his atrocities as head of the Gestapo. Our commentary is by Aleksandr Zholkver:

The Barbie case again has drawn attention to the entire problem of fascism and fascist crimes. But the former hangman of Lyons, unfortunately, is not the only such figure. He was among some 150,000 Hitlerite criminals who managed to escape retribution by hiding in various Latin American countries.

It would be reasonable to ask: How come that all thse seasoned criminals had been able to evade just punishment for their heinous crimes? Sometime ago there were many reports in the Western media about international fascist organizations that have especially close links with Latin American countries ruled then and now by military dictatorships. But there are other, no less influenctial organizations that patronized and are patronizing fascist criminals.

The American NBC television network has reported for instance that the same Klaus Barbie was in touch with American intelligence during the Second World War and (?was with) its help that he made his way to Latin America. But in this respect the hangman of Lyons is no exception either. It is a known fact that following the war American secret services picked up and used for their purposes Hitler's missile experts who had previously fired their Vaus [V] weapons on London and who would later work on American cruise missiles. Another fact that these services made similar use of Japanese specialists in bacteriological warfare who had previously waged war on China, and who would later help to develop new bacteriological weapons for the United States. However, the problem is not only that erstwhile fascists are being patronized, the far too greater one [as heard] is that new crimes are being committed of no smaller dimentions (?than) the Nazis.

Indeed, are the massacres at Palestinian camps in Lebanon less horrible than what happened at Auschwitz? And isn't it that Israel's aggression against Arab countries, supported as much as it is by the United States, thus make a repetition of the fascist of genocide [as heard] against a whole people. Just as disturbing parallels can also be drawn for the future. For instance, who can be sure that the ideology of so-called crusading against communism, which is now so ardently preached in Washington, hasn't been borrowed from the Nazi propaganda stock-in-trade along with the out-and-out lie about a so-called Soviet threat. And last, but not least, would it be very wrong to compare present reliance on military force and the drive for world mastery, supposedly to protect America's vital interests, with the fascist theory and practice of living space, which led to World War II?

The case of the Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie does remind the world of its past but it's also harsh warning about its future.

BUSH PRESSURES ITALIANS OVER PAPAL MURDER PLOT

LD082341 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2100 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] U.S. Vice President Bush has arrived in Paris from Rome where he held talks with the Italian leaders on a whole range of international problems, above all those connected with the deployment of U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in West Europe.

Bush also tried to exert pressure on Italian officials to compel them to produce proof of the socialist countries' involvement in the attempt to assassinate John Paul II, the head of the Roman Catholic Church.

'HOT WELCOME' BEING PREPARED IN GREAT BRITAIN

LD090650 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0330 GMT 9 Feb 83

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Anatoliy Doronin]

[Text] U.S. Vice President Bush arrives today in London, the final stop on his trip around West European states. Bush set off on his journey to publicize President Reagan's notorious zero option, which provides for the unilateral nuclear disarmament of the Soviet Union and which therefore categorically cannot be accepted. In Western Europe there is more and more support for the Soviet proposals directed at reducing medium-range nuclear armaments on the basis of the principles of equal security for the sides.

On the basis of the talks that have already been held in a number of countries, it may be said that Bush's attempts have not been successful. It is of note that even Britain's Prime Minister Thatcher considered it necessary to voice doubts about the zero option on the eve of Bush's arrival in London.

As for the British public, REUTER reports that it has prepared a very hot welcome for Bush. On the day of his arrival there will be a powerful protest demonstration in London against the American Administration's intention to deploy new nuclear missiles on the soil of a number of West European states, including Britain.

PRAVDA ACCUSES U.S. OF 'IDEOLOGICAL AGGRESSION'

PM081615 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Jan 83 Second Edition p 6

[V. Bolshakov article under the "From the Ideological Front" rubric: "Washington 'Crusaders' on the March"]

[Text] When the present U.S. Administration took office in 1981, wholesale ideological sabotage against the socialist countries was openly elevated to the rank of U.S. state policy (previously it had at least been covert).

Washington began talking about direct confrontation with the USSR by means of economic, trade and technological warfare and about the "possibility of defeating" the socialist countries in a "protracted nuclear war."

A new element was introduced in this general strategy of confronting real socialism -- "psychopolitical warfare." The aim of such "warfare" is to destabilize the existing system in the socialist community countries by means of political sabotage, espionage and a multiplicity of subversive propaganda acts to "subvert the enemy rear."

"Psychopolitical warfare" is an integral part of the global "crusade" against communism declared by President R. Reagan in his speech in London 8 June 1982. The U.S. President advocated not competition but confrontation with real socialism in the realm of ideas and social practice and the West's "right" to openly interfere in the internal affairs of the socialist community countries, especially the USSR and Poland, in order to change their existing system. The President left no one in any doubt on this score, calling the "crusade" against communism declared by him a "march for freedom and democracy," as a result of which "Marxism-Leninism will be consigned to the garbage heap of history."

Many people were disturbed by Reagan's speech. Even those used to attributing his irresponsible attacks against the USSR to his devotion to "dogmatic anticommunism" -- which, they say, should not always be taken seriously -- were alarmed. The grounds for alarm were, of course, increased by the fact that the anticommunist "crusade" program outlined by the President has began to acquire concrete form.

Shortly after the President's above-mentioned speech a "crusade" headquarters started taking shape in a special interdepartmental group. It operates in tandem with a general planning group at secretary level, including the State Department and Pentagon chiefs.

These groups include USIA and CIA representatives. Their tasks are to coordinate the programs envisaged by the "crusade," promote Washington's policies, including those aimed at countering the antimissile movement in West Europe and in the United States itself, train "crusaders" -- cadres for ideological sabotage -- and so forth.

Some $65 million are to be set aside in 1984 for financing numerous anticommunist ventures within the framework of the "crusade." This is in addition to the funds for radio sabotage.

A long-term anticommunism strategy is also being formulated. Using subsidies received both from the U.S. Congress and from "private individuals," an organization called the "American Political Foundation," whose directors include the leaders of the Republican and Democratic Party National Committees and representatives of U.S. "big business," in collaboration with the Washington administration, is currently framing a "semigovernmental program" that will be completed by April. Its official aim is to "consolidate democracy in developing and, where possible, communist countries" with the help of "nongovernmental organizations," which are frequently a cover for the CIA.

The real meaning of the U.S. perception of the word "democracy" can be judged from the now well-known plans of Polish counterrevolutionary organizations that were making preparations for the mass slaughter of communists in accordance with CIA scenarios. All the pseudotheoretical "conferences" and "symposiums" held and planned by Washington are geared toward ensuring such "democracy" by means of active interference in socialist countries' internal affairs, "where possible," in other words, as the U.S. communist newspaper THE DAILY WORLD writes, "toward the export of counterrevolution."

A typical example is the "Conference on Problems of Democratization in Communist Countries" held at the State Department 18-20 October 1982. For the first time ever the U.S. diplomatic department openly gathered, subsidized and incited to commit hostile acts against countries with which Washington maintains normal diplomatic relations former citizens of those countries like the criminal Bukovskiy, who was expelled from the USSR.

In the person of its head, G. Shultz, the State Department greeted these renegades thus: "We are expecting GUIDELINES (My emphasis -- V.B.) and creative ideas from you. The President and I are eager to hear your recommendations." After proclaiming these renegades "apostles of hope and heralds of a new era of democracy," Shultz pledged to give them every assistance.

The main focus of the "conference's" attention was the problem of coordinating anti-socialist forces outside and inside socialist countries. Measures for giving these forces official U.S. and allied support at international forums and for intensifying "psychological warfare" against the socialist countries -- especially Poland -- with the help of the CIA "Radio Liberty-Radio Free Europe" [RL-RFE] subversion center were discussed. It was announced at the "conference" that the U.S. Administration was to set aside $44 million for the "modernization" of these CIA mouthpieces in fiscal 1983.

Another event took place in Washington 4-6 November as part of the same program -- an "International Conference on Free Elections." In addition to "experts" from 25 countries, USIA took an active part in this witches' sabbath. This is understandable, since every large-scale operation to "destabilize existing regimes in communist countries" -- and that is a quote from documents circulating at the VOA radio station's headquarters -- has long been carried out by USIA in close collaboration with RL-RFE and, therefore, the CIA. The duty of collaborating thus has, moreover, been imposed on USIA by Congress and the White House.

The big talk of this meeting's organizers about their commitment to democracy masked the same aim -- under the flag of the "free flow of ideas" to use any way to export bourgeois ideology to socialist and socialist-oriented countries and to try to "cultivate" a "legal opposition" to the ruling communist and workers parties and thereby, as it was stated, try to "change history," that is, restore capitalism where the peoples have resolutely and irrevocably rejected it.

This spring experts in political plots will investigate the possibility of "a transition to democratic regimes" at an international conference in Washington organized under the aegis of the U.S. Supreme Court. The European council is planning something similar.

The special services in NATO countries, especially the "German Political Foundation" (FRG), which is well-known for its anticommunism, and international Zionism's propaganda services are also being involved in this work. The most active part in the joint operations of U.S. subversion centers and other NATO special services against the socialist countries will be taken by bodies like the "Samizdat Archive" (a branch of RL-RFE), the Paris-based Polish emigre journal KULTURA and numerous reactionary emigre organizations that have long been under the CIA's guardianship.

A special role is assigned to "dissidents" inside and outside the socialist countries. In Geneva in 1975 the CIA held the first "conference" of renegades who had been expelled or had fled from them. The possibility of engaging in subversive activities in those countries to "democratize" socialism on the pretext of "defending human rights" was discussed. (Several of the CIA wards in Geneva are known to have been actively involved in subsequent events in Poland.) Since that time this bunch of people has held regular meetings, again under the CIA aegis. The CIA also actively uses it in official functions -- witness the recent "conferences" at the State Department. Its services are also enlisted for the purpose of "testifying" at anti-Soviet hearings in the U.S. Congress and to take part in shock "mobile groups" for the purpose of staging provocations at international forums as, for example, happened during the Madrid meetings of the countries participating in the CSCE. We would point out here that many members of such "groups" are on the CIA payroll -- working for RL-RFE, KULTURA, the Posev Publishing House and so on.

It is interesting to note that the CIA held the first "international conference" on the subject of "communist aggression and opposition to it," which fits completely into the framework of the White House "crusade," in Washington on 21 May last year -- before Reagan addressed the British Parliament. The composition of the participants -- representing, it was officially reported, "a range of anticommunist organizations" -- from the White Emigre People's Labor Alliance to the "Free Poland" gang formed by the CIA -- speaks for itself.

At the same time as creating a special apparatus for devising ways of interfering in the internal affairs of socialist and socialist-oriented countries, the U.S. Administration and Congress are stepping up the activities of Sovietology centers. A bill envisaging the creation of a $50-million fund "to support new research on the Soviet Union" in the United States was submitted to Congress in September 1982. Significantly, government experts, U.S. Armed Forces intelligence experts, former CIA director B. Inman and others spoke in the Senate hearings on the bill.

Representatives of the leading U.S. monopoly groupings, including the Ford Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation and others, have made donations running into several million dollars to Sovietology centers.

The emphasis has, of course, been not on objective research on the USSR but on using Sovietologists as suppliers of analyses and ideas for practical preparations for yet more ideological sabotage. It is in this unenviable role that the State Department and the CIA have been employing these scholars of anticommunism at their "conferences."

So much for the material, political and ideological backup for the "crusade" declared by Reagan. It is obviously a long-term subversive operation hostile to the socialist countries devised, financed and directed by U.S. state organs including the White House.

It is, in fact, ideological aggression, which flagrantly contravenes international law, the UN Charter and the Final Act, which, as we know, the U.S. president also signed.

By announcing a program "for the encouragement of democratic change," which comes down to attempts to export counterrevolution to the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, the U.S. Administration is contravening the spirit and the letter of the basic documents regulating Soviet-U.S. relations. There is the 1933 accord on USSR-U.S. mutual diplomatic recognition, which endorsed the principle of noninterference in each other's affairs as the basis of relations between our countries. Even then the USSR and the United States solemnly pledged "to refrain from subsidizing and supporting mutually hostile groups and from recruiting people for such groups." Then there are the Yalta and Potsdam agreements of February and August 1945, laying down the main principles of the great powers' policy in postwar Europe. Finally, there are the "bases of mutual relations between the USSR and the United States," sealed by the signatures of the heads of both states on 29 May 1972, which also contains a promise to comply with the principle of noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

Does Washington realize where this gambling on confrontation with the socialist community could lead? As was pointed out at its Central Committee November (1982) plenum, the CPSU is opposed to the conflict of ideas turning into a confrontation between states and peoples and to weapons and the readiness to resort to them becoming the yardstick of social systems' potentialities. Confrontation is not our choice. But if the U.S. Administration supposes that by means of force and ideological sabotage it will succeed in "changing history," let it remember that its numerous predecessors in the sphere of organizing "crusades" against communism finished up in the very place where Washington resolved to dispatch Marxism-Leninism -- the garbage heap of history.

COMMENTS ON U.S. MANIPULATION OF PUBLIC OPINION

LD090055 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1935 GMT 7 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Mikheyev]

[Text] A report has come in from West Germany and it bears witness to the fact that the U.S. propaganda services are trying to directly manipulate West European opinion, with their own hands.

To this end, they make use of the so-called opinion poll which, in fact, conceals its own aim of insinuating mendacious ideas. Thus, U.S. propaganda services recently suggested that West Germans might wish to reply to questions based on false assertions. The logic was this: No matter how they answer, the lie contained in the question will stick in their memory.

U.S. ruling circles currently want to raise the level of international tension everywhere and to this end they wish to condition the psyche of individual people in their own country and in West Europe. But therein lies the essence of psychological war: to give people delusions which they themsleves will not notice, this is being done according to the principle of subconscious insinuation. Here is an example. West Germans were asked: Should the NATO countries strive to attain military superiority over the Soviet Union?

Thus the West German receives a psychological lecture in any case, that is, that the Soviet Union now possesses military superiority. This assertion is false through and through but nevertheless it will be remembered because, one way or another, it helps to form what in psychology is termed an idea.

Then the West German is asked: In your opinion, will the FRG be able to defend itself on its own against Soviet aggression? Here again we have the very same trick of psychological manipulation, although there is no danger whatever of Soviet aggression. And it is being mentioned as if it were a fact that serves as its own explanation.

And that is why frequently some people have caught the bug of this opinion. Processing the state of mind of the West German population is being done by Washington through the American-European institute of strategic research in Munich. Apparently Washington no longer trusts anyone in psychological strategy management [words indistinct] that is, to say it does not entrust it to its West European partners; it does not trust them enough to allow them to manipulate their own populations. The United States has begun to act directly, under its own steam, in order, to use a phrase of theirs, to achieve the psychological programming of people in the old world.

It is true that through these polls the American services find out for themselves the efficiency of NATO propaganda work, how it has performed so far and to what extent it has managed to put its own misinformation into people's heads.

U.S. REACTION TO PEACE PROPOSALS ATTACKED

PM081235 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Jan 83 Second Edition p 3

[A. Leontyev "Observer's Notes": "The Wrong Horse"]

[Text] A curious but noteworthy event took place recently in Washington. The White House boss set out for a ride. What would appear to be wrong with that? But the presidential aides became alarmed. As an NBC TV correspondent reported, they unanimously "came out against such a surprising form of recreation," in broad daylight too, "and expressed misgivings as to how it would be regarded by senators fatigued after a long session and by the American unemployed."

It is still possible to come to an understanding with the senators. But what is to be done with the tens of millions of ordinary Americans? Some 2 years ago the head of the new administration cheerfully stated that "America is back in the saddle!" And was not sparing of promises of peace and prosperity to the American people. The results are well-known. In this same America there is fantastic, all-time record military expenditure, reduced social appropriations and mass unemployment. In the international arena there is dangerous confrontation with the world of socialism, the threat of nuclear war and lack of harmony with allies who no longer wish to follow blindly behind an adverturist-minded leader.

Now, judging by certain indications, America is beginning to recover its sight. According to the latest poll, 62 percent of Americans reject the present leadership's foreign and domestic policy. The new Congress is no longer so obedient to the White House. Disarray and vacillation are seen among the ruling elite itself. The U.S. business circles' organ, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, states that "the Reagan administration is seized with panic." Hence Washington's increasing attempts to save its "prestige" and to prettify and justify its policy.

All this explains why the socialist countries' new peace offensive was met with such confusion and embarrassment in Washington. The world public and many political figures in America itself approved the proposals put forward in the speech by Comrade Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on 21 December 1982, and in the Warsaw Pact States' Political Declaration, and considered them to be a real alternative to nuclear catastrophe. But what about Washington? Earlier such proposals were rejected there out of hand. This time they decided not to act in this way; they considered it better to resort to strategems.

The U.S. President, replying to a question on how he regarded the proposal to conclude a treaty on mutual nonuse of military force and the maintenance of peaceful relations between the Warsaw Pact and NATO states, considered it necessary to state: "I think it will certainly be worth looking at...." But he said nothing about other proposals by the Warsaw Pact countries, particularly those concerning a complete and universal ban on nuclear weapons tests, the banning and elimination of chemical weapons, the banning of neutron and radiological weapons, and the banning of the deployment in space of weapons of any sort. There has been no constructive response in the President's speeches to the USSR's proposals on the problems of limiting and reducing U.S. and USSR strategic nuclear weapons and intermediate nuclear missiles. After all, such a response could prove the sincerity of R. Reagan's assertions about his "devotion to the cause of peace and disarmament."

So far there has been no such evidence. "The Reagan administration," THE WASHINGTON POST newspaper remarked on 23 January, "is still not even attempting to work out a position for serious negotiations with the Soviet Union in Geneva regarding intermediate missiles." According to well-informed figures in government departments, the administration has avoided serious attempts to advance beyond the zero option (which signifies the USSR's unilateral disarmament).

Judging by the evidence of the American newspapers, the United States "is creating the impression that it takes seriously all proposals on arms control" with one purpose -- to placate the public while accelerating the creation of new means of mass destruction and achieving the deployment of its nuclear missiles in Western Europe.

The main U.S. efforts today are directed not at the quest for peace but at the elaboration of militarist programes and aggressive military doctrines. If it were not for this, the cause of peace would long ago have made progress. After all, this is precisely the "horse" on which America could achieve its people's desired goal of security and happiness. However, the Washington leadership is backing the wrong horse...

The military fever is continuing in the United States. Officials do not tire of repeating that a nuclear arms freeze is allegedly "only necessary for Russia." When he recently met the Joint Chiefs of Staff committee the White House boss assured them that they would receive all the money they need for further implementation of the rearmament program, which amounts to $1.6 trillion over 5 years. Military expenditure for fiscal 1984 amounts to approximately $250 billion. The task is to achieve military superiority. If negotiations hamper this, too bad for them. In a letter to a congressman Reagan resorted to direct blackmail, stating that "if we do not obtain the MX missile, then it is not ruled out that the arms reduction talks in Geneva will be stopped." That's the way it is!

A secret Pentagon and U.S. National Security Council report was made known recently which directs the American Armed Forces to inflict a first nuclear strike on installations on the USSR and Warsaw Pact countries' territory, in particular using intermediate nuclear weapons in Western Europe. It is claimed that the United States "has the potential" to win a nuclear war against the USSR.

What will the Pentagon not say in attempting to convince Americans that nuclear war is tolerable and not so very terrible. One document prepared for the military department by experts claims that there is, as it were, only one problem: The types of weapons are so complex that they can be operated only by highly skilled technical specialists. For the moment there are not enough of them in the Armed Forces and it is necessary to rely on civilian contract personnel, on "technical mercenaries." In this connection the report says with a solemn air that "the question arises: If a war breaks out, will the civilian employees, whose contract stipulates an 8-hour working day, stay on as long as necessary, and will they fight?" The conclusion drawn is that millions more dollars are needed to train military specialists who will fight without taking account of the time....

Prominent Pentagon employees offer assurances that the United States can survive a nuclear war "if there are enough shovels" and that it can "recover" from such a war "in 2-4 years." Finally, Senator R. Russell, it seems, considers that everything will be fine if only two people survive -- an Adam and an Eve. The chief thing, he says, is that they should be Americans and not Russians, "and I would like them to survive on the American Continent and not in Europe."

How uncivilized America has become, that such bloodthirsty discussions take place! They are the poisoned fruit of anti-Soviet slander -- the systematic intimidation of the population with the "Soviet military threat" and the propagation of hatred toward our people. But we know another America too -- a country of honest, thinking people who do not believe the absurd inventions about the USSR's "aggressiveness" and who are struggling for the cessation of the arms race and for peace and cooperation with the Soviet Union.

"The Soviet people and Americans today," Comrade Yu.V. Andropov said, "have a single common enemy: the threat of war and everything that increases it." It is in the interests of our peoples and all mankind to halt the slide toward nuclear catastrophe. The peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries open up a path toward this goal.

Whether they will be implemented for the good of all peoples depends today on the West, and principally on the United States.

POPE ATTACK INQUIRY 'UNDERMINING' GENEVA TALKS

LD090407 Moscow in Italian to Italy 2100 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] On 8 February U.S. Vice President Bush arrived in Paris from Rome, where he had [passage indistinct] international, especially those linked with the installation in Western Europe and Italy of American medium-range nuclear missiles and [passage indistinct]. However, the mission of the American envoy was not exhausted with this. According to the press, Bush openly tried to exert pressure on the Italian representatives in order to impel them to present the proof of the participation of the socialist states in the attack on the head of the Catholic Church, John Paul II. From the material published by the press, it emerges that the White House empowered the U.S. vice president to inform the Italian leadership that President Reagan fully supported the activities of the Italian authorities as regards the inquiry into the attack on the pope, even if this should negatively affect the Soviet-American negotiations in Geneva on the limitation of nuclear arms and lead to their failure. This was reported last Sunday by the American television company NBC in one of its (?broadcasts).

This statement by the American President clearly shows who is interested in promoting the provocative noise that has been created in the West about the socialist states and who is the main director of this campaign. In fact, the White House is practically suggesting the direction in which the inquiry should proceed. All this throws light on the source of the anti-Soviet inventions in the Western press and the provocations directed against the socialist states. For some time there has been talk in Congress and the White House of the CIA's disobedience, stating that it was organizing its dirty operations on its own. The official Washington circles certainly tried to (?draw) a line of demarcation between them and the CIA's bad reputation. In reality, however, the spy department continues its (?activities) of sabotage with the White House's blessing. It is enough to recall the activity of the ill-famed Committee of 40 under Henry Kissinger, which at one time discussed and directed secret CIA operations against countries and regimes disobedient to Washington, including attacks on political opponents.

As regards the dirty inventions about the responsibility of the socialist countries for the attack in St Peter's Square, even the bourgeois mass media are compelled to admit, although reluctantly, that Italy cut a bad figure. The Italian press, especially the weekly PANORAMA, notes the extremely inconsistent and contradictory character of the testimony given by the Turkish neo-Nazi Ali Agca, who carried out the attack on the pope and tried to involve Bulgarian citizens who work in Italy. Now the Italian Foreign Ministry is calmly waiting for the end of the inquiry, PANORAMA writes, but this is the official position. There are many in the unofficial circles who wonder whether there is an honorable and not infamous way out of this affair. The White House's attempts to link the Geneva negotiations with the provocative machinations certainly do not show Washington's willingness to reach an agreement on the problems of cessation of the nuclear arms race, which is of vital importance for mankind. Now it is becoming clear that, apart from all other aims, this inquiry, directed by Washington, has the aim of undermining the Geneva negotiations.

BOVIN, ZHURKIN, KOBYSH ASSESS REAGAN AT MIDTERM

PM071103 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 27 Jan 83 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed feature under the "Interviews" rubric comprising editorial introduction and unnamed "correspondent" interviews with "Soviet journalists and scientists": "At the Halfway Point" -- first four paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Text] R. Reagan and his administration have passed the midway point of the presidential term allowed by the U.S. Constitution. Sufficient time has elapsed to assess the results of the 40th U.S. President's activity and to attempt to assess the prospects for the second half of his term.

The U.S. press is currently full of assessments. As NEW YORK TIMES political observer James Reston stresses, "never before during his term of office has President Reagan been the focus of such fierce criticism from the press of both political parties as he is now."

Americans' widespread discontent is being caused by Washinqton's policy of sabotaging efforts to curb the nuclear arms race and its course toward the further militarization of an already crippled economy. "The Reagan administration is facing a crisis of confidence in its policy in the arms control sphere both within the country and abroad," the NEW YORK DAILY NEWS states.

What will the second half of R. Reagan's presidency be like? Our correspondent put this question to a number of Soviet journalists and scientists.

A. Bovin, IZVESTIYA political observer:

In my view the next 2 years will not do R. Reagan any good. Let us begin with domestic policy. I fully accept that there may be some fall in the inflation rate, a revival in certain industrial sectors and so forth. But, in principle, Reaganomics has no future. Reagan is trying to desert the 20th century in favor of the 19th century. That is impossible.

In foreign policy there will be intensified maneuvering, and primarily the continuing changes of phraseology. But that is not all. It cannot be ruled out that, taking its allies' feelings into account, the White House will try to adjust its policy and make it a little more flexible. The proposed defense spending may be reduced a little. On the whole, however, the foreign policy course will remain the same -- against dctente and in favor or confrontation and the arms race.

V. Zhurkin, deputy director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of the United States of America and Canada:

I would just like to dwell on the question of Soviet-U.S. relations. They are bad. Improvement depends on the side which soured them -- the United States. Unfortunately, Washington has become particularly adept at worsening these relations; whenever it is a question of improving them, Washington always displays a striking inactivity.

Of course, there have been and will be contradictions between the most powerful representatives of the two socioeconomic systems. But there are also general problems which we are equally interested in solving. The main problem is that of averting the threat of war. Given goodwill on the part of the United States -- it has always existed and still exists on the USSR's part -- that threat would have been removed before. In recent years the United States has intensified it. Of course, Washington does not exist in a vacuum: The movement to freeze and reduce nuclear arsenals is growing within the country. Economic problems are increasing. Just think of the monstrous state budget deficit -- up to $200 billion.

The allies and even other countries hesitate when they look at Washington's reckless foreign policy. Will these realities force the White House to think again?

Washington's foreign policy is determined by powerful factors. Its ingrained custom of acting in the international arena from a position of strength is still strong. But as has already been shown more than once, such a policy cannot bring success. Therefore, it needs to be reviewed.

V. Kobysh, LITERATURNAYA GAZETA political observer:

Above all America is a mobile society, like mercury. Even if you proceed from the fact that the United States is a conservative country, we are dealing with a very changeable society.

Can the same be said for R. Reagan and his team? I believe so. I proceed from the premise that the current U.S. Administration is probably the most rightwing and reactionary that America has known in postwar years.

But even it is showing signs of movement. R. Reagan has begun to talk of peace. Even given that it is merely a case of rhetoric, its is still interesting. But it seems to me that there is not only rhetoric here but also the desire to remain "afloat." The overwhelming majority of Americans is now against war. They are horrified at the mere idea of a possible nuclear catastrophe. To ignore that means to concede the White House to someone else. That does not seem to form part of the plans of R. Reagan and his comrades in arms. In their blind anticommunism they have lost their reason but not their appetite. Regardless of their convictions, these people will have to take the voice of America into account.

U.S. 'PRESSING AHEAD' WITH SPACE ARMS RACE

LD090031 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1935 GMT 7 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Mikheyev]

[Text] American diplomacy is trying to confuse world opinion. Speaking in Geneva, U.S. Vice President George Bush said that it is the United States that is proposing to reduce strategic arms. These are words, but what are the facts?

According to reports from New York, the United States is continuing to build up its strategic arms and is beginning to press ahead with the space arms race. According to the journal BUSINESS WEEK, a program has been compiled to set up a system of major satellites which would work in cooperation. The program is called Milstar. The shuttle spacecraft will also be used. This program will cost $20 billion. It represents yet another feeding-trough for the military-industrial corporations. Companies such as the Lockheed aircraft corporation, the Hughes aircraft corporation, Thompson [words indistinct], General Electric Company and other assorted ones are now fighting each other to win contracts for setting up satellites and individual satellite systems.

Washington strategists are demanding a speedier elaboration and setting up of combat orbital stations equipped with laser weaponry. They are demanding that work should be stepped up on the antisatellite weapons systems.

The press reckons that by 1988 the Pentagon's annual space budget will have grown to $14 billion and correspondingly, so will the profits of the military corporations.

Creating new types of arms, the United States is again starting an arms race -- at a new stage, cosmic, as it were.

REAGAN 'SLIP' REVEALS 'ESSENCE' OF ECONOMIC POLICY

PM071551 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jan 83 Second Edition p 5

[Gennadiy Vasilyev "Commentator's Column": "An Eloquent Slip"]

[Text] The written word cannot be changed. And sometimes it is impossible to change what has been said, especially if it was said in public. Speaking in Boston to representatives of corporations mainly active in the sphere of military electronics productions, U.S. President R. Reagan said that he tends toward the view that it would be "fair" to abolish taxes on company income. The President's utterance caused much ballyhoo in political circles and in the press -- Americans had not heard such a blatantly pro-monopoly statement for a long time. Less than 24 hours later the White House, through its deputy press secretary, disavowed the President's pronouncement. People were told to regard it as another "slip of the tongue" by the head of state.

It is well known that the current Republican administration is in a muddle. There would be no point in dwelling on the event were it not for the fact that Reagan's "slip" was so eloquent and revealed so graphically the class essence of the administration's policy. Democrat T. O'Neill, speaker of the House of Representatives, has estimated that if the President's idea were put into practice the corporations would get the fat sum of $60 billion. The Treasury would be shorn of the same sum, which would have to be made up by extorting more from the people or by even more savage cuts in social programs. Thus it would be a new step in the direction in which the administration has been going for the past 2 years. During this time the monopolies have received many tax concessions. The arms manufacturers are reaping a rich harvest of military orders and millions of unemployed, poor and ordinary working Americans are experiencing hardship after hardship to pay for it.

The President's "slip" drew Americans' attention to the essence of the administration's overall economic policy -- a policy assailing the vital interests of working people, indulging the monopolies and conducting a dangerous arms race which is draining the country.

But, as the President's State of the Union address to Congress shows, the White House does not intend to change this policy as it asks working Americans to "tighten their belts" and pursues illusory military superiority in the international arena.

REAGAN'S TRADE SANCTIONS HURT U.S. BUSINESS

LD090013 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 8 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by Boris Kalyagin]

[Text] According to U.S. Department of Commerce data, the discriminatory measures introduced by President Reagan in the trade with the Soviet Union have inflicted losses upon U.S. businessmen of $2.2 billion. According to business circles, this figure has been underestimated and the real volume of damage is closer to $3 billion. The well-known U.S. corporation General Electric has suffered more than the others. It was to supply parts for gas turbine rotors for the Siberia-Western Europe gas pipeline. As a result of the ban on these deliveries, the corporation's losses amounted to $175 million and the rotors were delivered to us by West European companies. The Caterpillar Corporation has lost $90 million. Its share amounted to almost 85 percent of all pipelayers imported by the Soviet Union. The orders went instead to a Japanese firm.

Reagan's policy of discriminatory measures therefore resulted in large financial losses by U.S. businessmen.

CANADIANS WANT NORMAL RELATIONS, TRADE WITH USSR

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Dec 82 p 4

[PRAVDA correspondent N. Bragin dispatch: "Dictated by Mutual Interests"]

[Text] Ottawa, December -- Canadian statesmen and politicians the country's leading press organs and representatives of business circles are discussing extensively currently the prospects of the further development of Soviet-Canadian relations. The recent visit of Canadian Prime Minister P.E. Trudeau to Moscow, during which he met with N.A. Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, served as direct impetus for these discussions.

During the meeting there was an exchange of opinions on most important international problems. The importance of wide-ranging political dialogue between states in the interests of the consolidation of detente, removal of the threat of nuclear war, the curbing of the arms race and disarmament was emphasized. Questions of bilateral Soviet-Canadian relations were discussed also. "The Canadian prime minister," the capital's newspaper, THE CITIZEN, wrote, "expressed during his talks with N.A. Tikhonov his interest in the normal development of relations with the Soviet Union." The country's biggest newspaper, THE GLOBE AND MAIL, was even more precise: "Ottawa Seeks Ways To Resume Relations With Soviets".

The press highlights particularly P.E. Trudeau's statement after his visit to the Soviet Union that Canada, like the Soviet Union, intends to impart new impetus to bilateral relations, extending contacts and cooperation in various spheres. In an interview he gave to the Canadian Southern News Agency Trudeau declared: The West in general and Canada in particular are lingering in the development of normal relations with the USSR.

The bilateral political consultations conducted in Moscow in which representatives of the foreign ministries of the Soviet Union and Canada participated are regarded here as the first practical step on the way to the development of Canadian-Soviet relations. "It was the first time such consultations at such a high level between Canada and the USSR have been held," THE GLOBE AND MAIL recalls, "since the end of 1979," that is, since the time when a Conservative government was in power in Canada which blindly followed the lead of U.S. policy and cut back its relations with the USSR in many areas.

It is no secret that today also there are influential forces in Canada which would like to prevent the normal development of relations between our countries. They are appealing: "do not trust the Russians" and "toughen the West's positions in the face of the Soviet military danger." The latter words belong to J. Clark, leader of the opposition Progressive Conservative Party.

Canadians long since recognized the danger of the situation in which the Conservatives put their country during their brief term in office. However, the process of removal of the consequences of this policy has until recently been comparatively slow, as a result of which, as is now frankly acknowledged in Ottawa, Canada was behind a number of Western countries in the development of relations with the Soviet Union. This lagging is considered intolerable in Canadian business circles. The fact that representatives of local business are being "outflanked" by their senior partners -- the leaders of many corporations and companies in the United States who have embarked on direct contacts with Moscow -- has been extremely painful for them.

"Canadian companies," THE TORONTO STAR writes, "which produce oil and gas equipment and which supply it to the USSR welcome the fact that the Soviet market is again open to them in connection with the lifting of the restrictions introduced by President Reagan." The Canadian Government, as is known, officially protested the embargo introduced by the United States, regarding it as impermissible interference in its country's internal affairs. The expansion of trade relations with the Soviet Union and the fulfillment of the orders of Soviet foreign trade organizations will, in the calculations of local economists, provide work for at least 50,000 Canadian workers.

Soviet exports to Canada are developing also, and Canadian companies with Soviet participation are strengthening their positions. Many commodities from our country, such as the Lada automobiles, machine tools and tractors, are well known to Canadians. The further growth of the sale of Soviet commodities to Canada will make it possible to strengthen and expand the trend in the development of reciprocal trade which has been discerned. This would be in the interests of both sides. As a whole, trade turnover between the USSR and Canada has increased several times over in recent years and was in excess of $2 billion in 1981.

A mutual interest and readiness to restore cultural and scientific exchange between the two countries was revealed in the course of the consultations in Moscow. Canada also hopes that a meeting of the Soviet-Canadian Mixed Commission on Economic, Industrial and Scientific-Technical Cooperation, which was created in 1976, will be held very soon, THE GLOBE AND MAIL reports.

Evaluating positively the conditions in which the process of the development of Soviet-Canadian relations has taken place in the recent past, Canadian Foreign Minister A. MacEachen emphasized, replying to journalists' questions, that "the period of detente contributed to a large extent to the drop in tension in international relations and the development of exchange with the Soviet Union." He confirmed Canada's readiness to continue to follow this course.

"Canada and the Soviet Union have a broad field of cooperation," E. Whelan, minister of agriculture of Canada, declared in conservation with your correspondent at the end of a visit to this country of a Soviet government delegation headed by USSR Minister of Agri[illegible]ture V.K. Mesyats.

The interests of both countries and their endeavor to live in peace are the reliable basis of this cooperation. This opinion is shared by all realistic people of Canada, who sincerely aspire to their country's relations with the Soviet Union enjoying natural development and being truly good-neighborly and friendly.

PRC NEGOTIATING TEAM TO LEAVE FOR USSR 27 FEB

OW081308 Hong Kong AFP in English 1301 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] Beijing, Feb. 8 (AFP) -- A Chinese delegation will leave Beijing for Moscow on February 27 to resume talks on normalizing Sino-Soviet relations, diplomatic sources said here today. China had already announced that the Moscow discussions -- the second series of Sino-Soviet talks after those in Beijing last October -- will begin in early March. But the exact dates for the meetings were not immediately available.

Diplomatic sources said that the Chinese delegation would be led by Vice Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, who also led the talks were there in October.

TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WITH PRC OPEN IN MOSCOW

LD081757 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1636 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow, Feb 8 (TANJUG) -- The Soviet-Chinese trade negotiations which opened here today (Tuesday) will probably lead to an agreement on higher trade for this year. Sports cooperation between the two countries is also expected to continue. Chinese basketball and volleyball teams are due to visit Moscow. In the meantime, however, the Soviet press continues stressing major differences between the two countries on certain important international questions. PRAVDA and other Soviet newspapers for example charge those who "want the president of the (Democratic Kampuchea) Coalition Government (Sihanouk)" to take Kampuchea's vacated seat in the Movement of Non-alignment. [as received]

PRC STATEMENT CONDEMNS U.S.-S. KOREA EXERCISE

LD081817 Moscow TASS in English 1507 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] Beijing, February 8 TASS -- A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Chinese People's Republic made a statement for the XINHUA news agency to condemn the current American-South Korean military manoeuvres in South Korea and to favour withdrawal of U.S. troops from that country.

The statement says that the American troops stationed in South Korea pose a threat to peace and stability in Korea. The sabre-rattling military maneuvres held now can only increase tension in the Korean peninsula. They do not meet the interests of peace and security in North East Asia and Asia as a whole, and contradict the aspirations of the peoples of all countries in the region, that come out for maintaining a stable situation there. The United States and South Korea, the statement runs, must immediately cease large-scale military maneuvres and prevent the possibility of any provocations.

CORRECTION TO COVERAGE OF SHULTZ FAR EAST TOUR

The following correction concerns the item entitled "Shultz Wraps Up China Leg of Far East Tour" and subtitled "Meeting With Sihanouk"," published in the 7 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, B 1, first paragraph, line one:

[Excerpts] The second stage...(changing processing indicator from "text" to "excerpts")

For excerpts from the same source commenting on Secretary of State Shultz' visit to Japan see the Northeast Asia section of this book.

MOSCOW COMMENTS ON SECRETARY SHULTZ' ASIA TOUR

Kaverznev on Japan Visit

LD050515 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 2010 GMT 4 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Aleksandr Kaverznev]

[Excerpts] The second stage of U.S. Secretary of State Shultz' Far Eastern journey is ending. He has held talks in Beijing. The speeches and toasts that the guest and hosts exchanged in public abounded in platitudes on both sides and evasive formulations. Shultz spoke of the great importance of his visit to him personally, for President Reagan and for the United States, which wants firm and stable relations with China, since Washington and Beijing have, as Shultz put it, parallel interests in the world.

The Chinese leaders also spoke of their sincere hope for good development of bilateral relations, but stressed much more insistantly than Shultz that the negotiations must be frank and sober. [Video shows Shultz meeting Chinese leaders at a conference table.] In the words of Wu Xueqian, Chinese foreign minister, on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence, his country wishes to maintain and develop normal relations with all states. Specifically, with regard to the United States he said that difficulties and obstacles exist and effort is needed to drive away the dark clouds. From further reports it became clear that at issue was not only the problem of Taiwan, to which Washington continues to supply arms, but the Far East as a whole is disturbed by the whole U.S. strategy in the region.

What is meant by this? Above all the behavior of Japan, which Shultz visited a few days ago. Over the past 30 years the industrial output of Japan has increased by 23 times. From being a producer of cheap goods with a poor reputation, it has become the second industrial power of the capitalist world, producing over 3 million more cars than the United States. It holds first place in a number of radio-electronic industries. It also smelts more steel and produces more rolled metal than America, and moreover with higher quality and at a lower price. At the base of all this is a strikingly fast growth in labor productivity and the perfection of many technological developments.

I am not now speaking of the complex social aspects of this phenomenon. Nor will I touch on the widely known trade and economic war between Japan and the United States. I mention only the reasons that have given rise to the temptation to exploit the present might of Japan and its new place in Asia for the purposes of American policy.

We do not err when in our commentaries we speak of the very strong U.S. pressure aimed at forcing Japan to increase its military spending and review its constitution, which forbids Japan from spending more than 1 percent of its gross national product on military needs and forbids intervention in armed conflicts outside its national frontiers. The Americans want to impose the role of an unsinkable aircraft carrier on Japan and make her a partner in their military presence in South Korea, the Pacific and even the Indian Ocean. All this is true. America would very much like to have such a powerful ally in its orbit. Besides this, Tokyo's participation would allow Washington to keep the Japanese in hand. It would restrict their independence.

However, we will not close our eyes to the fact that a country like Japan cannot be compelled to do anything if its government does not wish it. In Tokyo sober voices are being heard and a sentence from one of the opposition leaders has become popular: Why should Japan, as an independent country, have to commit suicide with the United States?

But Prime Minister Nakasone shares Reagan's views and is prepared to cooperate with Washington. At Nakasone's back stand industrial groupings and the militarists, who would also like to exploit Japan's accumulated potential in their own way. Of course, neighboring states, including China, can see all this. It is no accident that in this part of Asia photographs and reminiscences about the cruel Japanese expeditions of conquest in the 30's and the brutality of the Japanese war machine in China, and southeast Asia, on the shores of the Gulf of Thailand and on the Pacific islands are being more frequently published.

There is undoubtedly a direct connection between Japanese-American military schemes and the sharp article published by the Beijing RENMIN RIBAO on the 2nd day of Shultz' stay in the Chinese capital, an article demanding that provocations against the Korean People's Democratic Republic cease. It has become know that when he was in Tokyo Shultz persistently begged the Japanese Government to send a special representative to Beijing no later than the middle of February so as to soothe Chinese concern over the turning of Japan into a major military power, as YOMIURI reported. Now such a representative has already been appointed. On 15 February he will arrive in Beijing. But will Chinese concern abate?

Kalyagin on S. Korea Visit

LD090005 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 8 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by Boris Kalyagin]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has ended his visit to South Korea. The Washington envoy met with Chon Tu-hwan, head of the South Korean dictatorial regime. [Camera shows Shultz Chon Tu-hwan meeting] They discussed issues pertaining to the further strengthening of military cooperation between Washington and Seoul. Shultz assured Chon Tu-hwan that the U.S. expeditionary force will remain on South Korean territory. It numbers almost 40,000 men armed with the latest weapons, including nuclear weapons. The secretary of state promised the Seoul dictator that the United States will increase deliveries of weapons and military equipment for the South Korean Army and will assist South Korea in the development of its own war industry.

The Washington representative went to the demilitarized zone separating South Korea from the DPRK. This visit was of an overtly provocative nature. Shultz also inspected U.S. and South Korean troops concentrated on the border. [Camera shows Shultz visiting DMZ] He looked for a long time through binoculars at the territory of People's Korea. He gave many assurances of the firm determination of the United States to defend the Seoul regime.

The secretary of state's visit to South Korea contributed to increasing tension in the Far East. It has proved to be yet one more demonstration of the U.S. intention to expand its military positions in that area of the globe. The plans to knock together a Washington-Seoul-Tokyo militarist alliance are particularly alarming.

Earlier in his report to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Shultz maintained that Japan and South Korea mutually complement [dopolnyat] each other in the military field and fulfill in the Far East the role of a bulwark against the Soviet Union and communism.

Now these statements are being confirmed by practical steps. Shultz' visit coincided with the major U.S.-South Korean Team Spirit exercises. During these maneuvers Japan was used as an operations bridgehead.

Shultz ended his stay in South Korea on a militarist note. Prior to his departure by air for Hong Kong he declared again at Seoul airport that the United States intends to continue developing military cooperation with the South Korean regime.

'Provocative' Visit to S. Korea

PM082351 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 9 Feb 83 p 3

[TASS correspondent report: "Provocative Undertaking"]

[Text] Tokyo, 8 February -- Today saw the completion of the visit to South Korea by U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz, who used it by no means to normalize the situation in the region but to further fuel tension, which contradicts the interests of peace and security in the Far East and Asia as a whole.

According to Japanese press reports, Shultz' talks yesterday with Chon Tu-hwan, ringleader of the dictatorial South Korean regime, centered on questions linked with the further consolidation of militarist cooperation between Washington and Seoul. As the newspaper ASAHI writes, the sides rapidly reached agreement on the "need" for the stationing of a 40,000-strong U.S. expeditionary force in South Korea.

Shultz promised Washington's Seoul puppets to expand supplies of U.S. arms and combat hardware for the South Korean Army and "help" in developing South Korea's own military industry.

After this the Washington emissary left by helicopter for the demilitarized zone that divides the northern and southern parts of the Korean peninsula and inspected the U.S. and South Korean troops concentrated there. This provocative undertaking was accompanied by assurances from Shultz about the United States' firm readiness to "defend" the Seoul regime.

The results of the U.S. secretary of state's visit to South Korea testify that the Washington administration intends to strengthen its positions in the Far East even further to the detriment of the Korean people's security and to knock together a Washington-Seoul-Tokyo strategic triangle. This is confirmed by a statement made by Shultz today at Seoul airport before flying to Hong Kong. He stressed that the United States and its South Korean satellites intend to continue to cooperate actively in the military field.

Japan, Korea Visits Assessed

SK091251 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 8 Feb 83

[(Gorolov) commentary]

[Text] The high-ranking special envoy from Washington has concluded his junket after visiting Japan, China, South Korea, and Hong Kong.

(?Mass media) of Asian countries are paying special attention to Shultz' visit to Toyko and Seoul. The reason is this: In the Japanese capital, Shultz continued the discussion on the militarization of Japan [word indistinct], the issue that Japanese Premier Nakasone started in Washington.

Under the agreement with Tokyo, the U.S. leading circles are trying to turn Japan into (?a U.S. aircraft carrier) in the Asian waters, [words indistinct].

According to the (?opinion) of the Pentagon, Japanese Armed Forces should be used to blockade (?international) waters and sea lanes. [Passage indistinct] However, peoples in Southeast Asia remember well what the Japanese militarists did to affect their fate during the World War II.

[Words indistinct] reflecting the opinions of the broad social circles in Southeast Asia, [word indistinct] warns that the militarization of Japan is a concept with grave consequences for this region.

In Pyongyang, KCNA estimates that the formation of the Washington-Tokyo-Seoul military alliance is a step toward a new war.

The militarization of the South Korean regime, which is being materialized within the framework of this alliance under the aid of Tokyo, cannot but evoke the apprehensions of the Vietnamese people, too. That is because during the U.S. imperialists' war of aggression against Vietnam, the South Korean [word indistinct] fought on the side of the armed interventionists, and the U.S. airplanes, which bombed Vietnam, had their bases in Japanese airports.

All these facts make it possible to imagine what danger the alliance among the U.S., Japanese and the South Korea militarists is creating for the Asian peoples and for the (?peace) of Asia and the whole world.

NODONG SINMUN CITED ON TEAM SPIRIT EXERCISE

PM081427 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Feb 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Resolute Denunciation"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 1 Feb -- The newspaper NODONG SINMUN has resolutely denounced the joint U.S.-South Korean Team Spirit-83 military maneuvers, which began in South Korea 1 February. In conducting these maneuvers, the Korean Worker's Party Central Committee organ points out, the U.S. imperialists are trying to prevent peaceful building in the DPRK and the Korean people's struggle for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea and the attainment of the country's independent, peaceful unification. The United States is also counting on intimidating the peace-loving peoples of Asia and the world with a show of strength in this region.

The Team Spirit-83 maneuvers are the biggest in recent years. Taking part are 73,000 Americans, 118,000 South Korean Army servicemen and forces of the 7th Fleet and U.S. strategic aircraft in the Pacific Ocean zone.

Pyongyang, 1 Feb -- In connection with the Team Spirit-83 maneuvers that began here today the supreme commander in chief of the Korean People's Army has ordered that all Korean People's Army units, people's guard troops and people's militia be put on full combat alert.

TIKHONOV LETTER HINTS AT THAI-VIETNAM SOLUTION

BK090944 Hong Kong AFP in English 0936 GMT 9 Feb 83

[Excerpts] Aranyparathet, Thailand, Feb 9 (AFP) -- Rival forces today traded heavy artillery fire along the Thai-Cambodian border opposite several encampments housing tens of thousands of refugees, front-line reports said.

On the diplomatic front, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Kapitsa left Bangkok today for Hanoi at the end of a three-nation tour of non-communist Southeast Asia that had also taken him to Indonesia and Malaysia.

The flare-up of fighting between pro-Vietnamese and anti-Vietnamese Cambodian forces near the Thai-Cambodian border coincided with the three-day visit in Thailand of the Soviet Union's Mr Kapitsa.

Mr. Kapitsa, seen off by Thai Deputy Foreign Minister Arun Phanuphong today, was asked during formal talks yesterday to convey Thailand's concern on the border situation to Vietnamese authorities.

According to Mr. Arun, the Soviet minister brought a letter from Soviet Premier Nikolay Tikhonov to his Thai counterpart Prem Tinsulanon that hinted at the possibility of new proposals from Hanoi on the Cambodian situation.

Mr. Arun said yesterday that the letter suggested talks "to solve regional problems through political means" and indicating Moscow's willingness to "cooperate in solving these problems." Mr. Arun did not elaborate.

KAMPUCHEA-USSR TRADE, PAYMENTS, PROTOCOL SIGNED

BK070845 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0422 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Phnom Penh, 7 Feb (SPK) -- An agreement on trade exchanges and payments for the 1983-85 period and a related protocol for 1983 were signed in Moscow on 4 February by Kampuchea and the Soviet Union.

By virtue of this agreement the PRK will furnish the USSR with its customary export goods such as natural rubber, timber and tobacco. In return, the Soviet Union will furnish Kampuchea with oil products, rolled steel, iron, machines and other equipment and items for everyday use. The agreement was signed by Tang Saroem, PRC trade minister, who led a delegation to visit the Soviet Union.

U.S. 'BACKS' BARBIE, POL POT 'ATROCITIES'

LD081630 Moscow TASS in English 1610 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 8 TASS -- TASS news analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

The trial of the Nazi criminal Barbie will raise questions going far beyond the context of the case, the French newspaper LE MONDE writes today in connection with the extradition of the wartime butcher of Lyon by the Bolivian authorities to France. Have crimes against humanity disappeared in our days and is it possible to forget that Pol Pot and his accomplices, for instance, who were perpetrating similar atrocities, enjoy the right, out of considerations of high politics to hold a seat at the United Nations? the newspaper asks, and with good reason.

The question applies not only to individual criminals -- which is important in itself, however — but to a distinctive policy of certain countries making it possible both for criminals and for their benefactors to mock the memory of millions of innocent victims.

The atrocities of the Pol Pot gang are known to the whole world: Kampuchea was devastated during the rule of that gang and people doomed to death were subjected to sophisticated and excruciating torture before being killed. The country as a whole was a huge concentration camp.

Today the Pol Pot executioners, instead of getting their deserts for genocide against their own people, are not only at large but are given special honours and respect by certain Western governments, including the U.S. Administration. Plush official receptions and welcomes are given to those criminals, press conferences are called to enable them to justify their crimes against humanity and to slander the policy of the legitimate governments of the Indochinese countries. For instance, the Pol Pot followers have been keeping a seat at the United Nations for several years now with direct support of the United States, which is violating the letter and the spirit of the U.N. Charter. Isn't it sacrilege that these criminals, who stained themselves with the blood of millions and who do not represent anyone but themselves, are invited to discuss problems related, for instance, to human rights, the promotion of democracy and war and peace.

These factors do not at all take aback the Reagan administration because the Pol Pot hangmen today serve well the U.S. hegemonistic interests. It is no chance that both Barbie and the Pol Pot men have the same backer, Washington. In violation of their duty of an ally, the U.S. secret services at the end of the war let the Nazi criminal Barbie out of the U.S. zone of occupation in Germany, thus enabling him to evade justice for almost 40 years.

Today the United States, violating the commonly recognized principles of morality, humanism and international law, are raising Pol Pot followers to the level of "official representatives." Moreover, they use the gang of hangmen in their policy against the people and Government of Kampuchea and against the other Indochinese countries. It is perfectly clear that no considerations of so-called "high politics" can justify crimes against humanity.

MESSAGES EXCHANGED ON BURMA INDEPENDENCE DAY

BK090140 Moscow in Burmese to Burma 1030 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet sent a message of greetings to President U San Yu of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma on the 35th independence anniversary of Burma [on 4 January]. The message wished the Burmese friends success and progress.

In his reply to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, U San Yu wished the Soviet people further progress and development.

The Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union also sent a message of greetings to Prime Minister U Maung Maung Kha on the same occasion. In his message, U Maung Maung Kha expressed gratitude for the greetings message and wished the Soviet people progress and development.

BRIEFS

KAMPUCHEAN TRADE AGREEMENT -- In Moscow 3-year agreement on trade and payments between the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Kampuchea, 1983-1985, has been signed. The agreement will promote further expansion of Soviet-Kampuchean trade and economic relations. We should point out that in the current year Soviet trade with socialist countries will rise by 7.7 percent. Their share of the USSR foreign trade balance will reach nearly 58 percent. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 5 Feb 83 LD]

PZPR'S OLSZOWSKI HAILS CPSU'S 'PEACE PROGRAM'

PM071329 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Feb 83 Second Edition p 4

[Article by S. Olszowski, member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo and Polish foreign minister: "A Historic Appeal"]

[Text] The Conference of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee [PCC] held in Prague in early January remains at the center of the attention of governments and the broad public throughout the world. The Prague meeting took place soon after the broaching of important foreign policy initiatives in the report by Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the ceremonial session in the Kremlin on the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation. These initiatives, as the continuation of the CPSU's great Peace Program, are a further creative development of that program and give an optimistic answer to the main problems that now concern the peoples.

The Prague conference justified the hopes pinned on it. It confirmed and concretized the Soviet state's initiatives. The political declaration adopted at the conference put forward a concrete program for the struggle for peace, reaffirmed readiness for dialogue and displayed the will to continue the policy of lessening tension and the desire to preserve and deepen international cooperation on the basis of equal security and the observance of the supreme interests of all peoples and states. Herein lies the greatest significance of the results of the Prague conference, and this is what makes its political declaration an important phenomenon in international relations.

The conference of the Warsaw Pact PCC in Prague is an event of tremendous political and ideological significance. Once again, and with particular force, we see submitted to the judgment of the world public the confrontation between two programs -- socialism and imperialism; two political courses -- peace and war; two prospects -- continuing life and nuclear death; two conceptions of the development of international relations -- aimed at collaboration, the lessening of tension and disarmament on the one hand, and, on the other hand, oriented toward confrontation leading to war, the stepping up of propaganda aggression against the socialist countries and interference in sovereign states' internal affairs. Historical right will inevitably be on the side of those who defend peace and detente. We communists believe deeply that our planet's future is lasting peace.

In this connection we are aware that the fate of this future is being decided now, at this time. It will be secured first and foremost as a result of the elimination of the threat that lies in the new nuclear missile arms race alongside the exacerbation of military-political confrontation and tension in all parts of the world. The present U.S. Administration's course is aimed precisely at stepping up these negative factors. Its aim is to undermine the military-strategic equilibrium of forces and acquire superiority for the United States over the USSR and for NATO over the Warsaw Pact. This is also the aim of Washington's plans concerning ICBM's and the NATO decisions -- adopted under U.S. pressure -- on deploying new American medium-range missiles in West Europe. The arms race policy is accompanied by the dissemination of military doctrines dangerous to the cause of peace, based on the recognition of nuclear war as possible, permissible and even expedient.

Against the gloomy background of American programs for the production and deployment of nuclear weapons as well as other types of armaments that are being created on the basis of the latest scientific discoveries, against the background of U.S. decisions concerning the implementation of programs for the development and modernization of the American military potential, the Warsaw Pact states' political declaration is a particularly convincing statement in defense of peace.

While pointing to the dangerous trends in Western policy, the Warsaw Pact states are at the same time convinced that, however complex the world situation, the potential to overcome this dangerous stage in international relations does exist. The political declaration notes that "the forces of peace are mightier than the forces of war," and stresses forcefully that "everything depends on their cohesion and the purposefulness of their actions."

Socialism is synonymous with peace and security. It has always upheld man's main right, the right to life, as the most important need of all peoples and at the same time as a necessary condition of the implementation of mankind's great dreams of justice and happiness. The defense of peace is inseparably associated with the great Lenin's activity. For more than 60 years the USSR guided by the interests of universal peace and acting on the basis of Leninist foreign policy principles, has been fighting for respect for the peoples' right to self-determination and for the sovereignty of all states.

Today the land of the soviets is still the main bastion of peace and the bulwark of the peoples' freedom and independence. This was reflected in the appeal "to the parliaments, governments, political parties and peoples of the world" adopted at the ceremonial session in the Kremlin 22 December 1982. The Soviet Union and its armed forces, shoulder to shoulder with the armed forces of the other states of the defensive Warsaw Pact, are the inviolable guardians of peace and a peaceful future for mankind and the guarantee of the defense of peace.

In his speech at the Moscow ceremonial session on the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation Army Gen Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, stated: "The Soviet Union's peace-loving, profoundly humane policy...serves the most important cause of our time: Saving mankind from nuclear destruction. It has earned the recognition and respect of millions of people. Poland fully and actively supports this policy.

Poland, as a European country to whose lot tremendous losses and military devastation have fallen in the past, devotes great attention to ensuring lasting peace on our continent. Without a doubt this peace is based on unconditional observance of treaties and agreements that define the territorial and political realities that have become established since World War II and in the course of postwar development. Together with the other socialist countries and also nonaligned countries, we advocate the observance and implementation of the Final Act signed in Helsinki.

At present the strengthening of peace in Europe is closely associated with preventing the stockpiling of arms — particularly nuclear arms -- on its territory and with military detente. This is the aim of the very important appeal by the Warsaw Pact members to the NATO states proposing the conclusion of a treaty on the mutual nonuse of military force and on maintaining relations of peace.

Poland fully supports the USSR's stance on the question of limiting strategic arms, and also medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe. We also share the view that the basis for agreement must be the observance of the balance of forces, which is a condition of international security.

The Soviet proposals put forward in the report of 21 December 1982 could, with good will on the other side too, be a constructive basis for talks. As Yu. V. Andropov said, "...no nuclear war must be permitted -- small, big, limited or total. There is no more important task today than to stop the instigators of a new war. This is required by the vital interests of all people."

Particular significance is attached to the attitude toward the proposal to conclude a treaty on the mutual nonuse of military force and on maintaining relations of peace in the international community. The commitment on the nonuse of force by states belonging to the two alliances against third countries that it is proposed to include in the treaty reflects the fraternal countries' unswerving desire to create a system of collective security and establish mutual trust.

The Prague conference is of tremendous significanee for public opinion in Europe and throughout the world. The important proposals made in Prague will undoubtedly give creative impetus to movements of peace supporters and all people of good will who advocate the improvement of the international situation.

Polish foreign policy, whose orientation toward lessening international tension was again reaffirmed by the session of the Polish Sejm that has just been held, is pursued in the interests of all the people. We share actively and fully in the implementation of the tasks put forward at the Prague PCC conference -- tasks serving the great, noble goals of strengthening security and peaceful cooperation.

The Polish public receives with profound satisfaction the fact that the Soviet Union has unilaterally pledged not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. It is only to be regretted that other states that possess such weapons have not yet responded with similar commitments.

The elimination of the threat of nuclear conflict requires efforts by all people of good will. But it depends fundamentally on the attainment of agreement between the USSR and the United States on the question of limitation and reduction of strategic nuclear weapons. The Soviet Union constantly displays a sense of responsiblity in this matter and a sincere desire to reach an honest agreement.

The Soviet Union's new initiatives create favorable opportunities for achieving agreement in principle on strategic nuclear arms limitation and reduction. These opportunities must not be missed. It is high time for the American partner, taking account of the peoples' demands, including the increasingly loud voice of protest from the American public, to approach the talks seriously

The socialist states have reaffirmed their readiness for dialogue and cooperation with all who value the interests of these aims, as the Prague political declaration says, that; "the socialist countries place all their international prestige and political and economic potential in the balance on the side of peace."

Much will now depend on the response of the governments of Western countries and their real readiness to adopt measures aimed at consolidating security in Europe.

The visit to Bonn by A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, was a vivid confirmation of the Soviet Union's desire to continue a businesslike dialogue with the FRG on the basis of the treaties concluded in past years. The purpose of this dialogue and of contacts and talks with all West European states is to avert the sharp deterioration in the situation in Europe that is threatened, in particular, by the deployment of American medium-range missiles there.

As has been the case throughout the postwar period, the supreme goal of Polish foreign policy today is the defense of peace -- a necessary condition of our state's security and its peaceful, socialist development. The basis of this policy is the indestructible alliance and fraternal cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist community states.

For reasons that are well known, our attention is focused on the situation in Europe. For many years now Poland has made its contribution to the peaceful settlement of the continent's problems. This was expressed, in particular, in Poland's constructive stance, in conjunction with the other socialist states, at the Madrid meeting of representatives of the countries that took part in the all-European conference. The constructive completion of this meeting, the further positive development of the process that began with the CSCE and in particular the organization of a conference on measures to strengthen confidence and security and on disarmament in Europe are important tasks which we spare no effort to resolve.

We are taking part in the Vienna talks, striving, together with the other socialist countries, for a reduction in armed forces and armaments in Central Europe. We are active in the disarmament committee. In the Security Council Poland defends the people's right to live in peace and comes out against the aggressive impulses of imperialist circles in various parts of the world. Together with all the socialist community states Poland will continue to oppose with all its might the threat of nuclear war. We will resolutely advocate peaceful development, detente and the strengthening of international security and the elimination of conflicts and "hot" spots.

Poland advocates normal relations with states with different social systems, the development of economic cooperation and the elimination of all barriers and discrimination. This is the thrust of the Polish proposal on elaborating confidence-building measures in the sphere of economic relations.

In the present complex international situation we regard it as our duty, our obligation to our people and the cause of socialism to make a constructive contribution to the resolution of the difficult problems of the modern world. At the same time we are opposed to the policy of sanctions and interference in our internal affairs and attempts by imperialist forces to manipulate Poland's destiny in order to whip up confrontation aimed against socialism and peace. We received with gratitude the assurance contained in the Warsaw Pact states' political declaration that socialist Poland can always count on moral, political and economic support from the fraternal countries. The results of the Prague conference increased the strength of the influence of our entire community and each socialist state individually on the world situation. This will help us to a significant degree in implementing the aims of Polish foreign policy.

As before, we will rely on close collaboration with the Soviet Union in implementing the socialist countries' coordinated line on the resolution of international problems, in the struggle for peace and international security and in opposing the imperialist policy of arms race and confrontation, resolutely rebuffing any attempts by aggressive Western centers to interfere in the internal affairs of sovereign socialist states. Our collaboration is based on the profound commonality of our vital interests and noble goals, which are linked inseparably with the ideas of socialism and peace.

USTINOV, YEPISHEV RECEIVE POLISH ARMY DELEGATION

PM071607 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Jan 83 Second Edition p 5

[Unattributed report: "Visit by Polish Political Workers"]

[Text] At the invitation of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, a delegation of Polish Army leading political workers headed by Division General J. Baryla, vice minister of national defense and chief of the Polish Army Main Political Directorate, visited the Soviet Union 24 - 28 January.

The delegation was received by Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister.

Talks were held with Army General A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate. Colonel General M.G. Sobolev, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, and other responsible political workers participated in the talks.

At the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate and the Moscow Military District Political Directorate the Polish comrades were acquainted with the experience of party political work in the USSR Armed Forces, the activity of political organs in the fulfillment of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) Plenum and also with the course of socialist competition in the army and navy.

The delegation visited the V.I. Lenin Military Political Academy, the V.I. Lenin Ulyanovsk Guards' Higher Tank Command College and a military unit.

The Polish political workers laid wreaths at the V.I. Lenin Mausoleum and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and visited places associated with Lenin in Ulyanovsk City.

The Polish Army political workers' delegation returned home 28 January. The delegation was seen off at the airfield by Army Gen A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, and other Soviet generals and officers. Among those seeing the delegation off were S. Kociolek, Polish ambassador to the USSR, and Division General I. Szczesnowicz, Polish army, naval and air attache at the Polish embassy in the USSR.

GRISHIN, CPCZ'S KAPEK AT 'PRAGUE DAYS IN MOSCOW'

LD081034 Moscow in Czech and Slovak to Czechoslovakia 1700 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] A "Prague Days in Moscow" festival opened in the Soviet capital today. The festive opening was devoted to a meeting of a Prague delegation with representatives of the working people of the Soviet capital, held in the Rossiya Concert Hall. Viktor Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom; chairman of the Moscow Soviet Vladimir Promyslov; responsible party and soviet workers, and leading representatives of social organizations were present. The Prague delegation, headed by Antonin Kapek, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and chief secretary of the Prague party committee, also included Frantisek Stafa, mayor of Prague; Karel Beranek, secretary of the Prague party committee; Frantisek Kubes, a Prague foundryman, deputy of the CSSR Federal Assembly and hero of socialist labor; Vladimir Hynek, chairman of the Prague Trade Union Council; and Jaroslav Piskac, chairman of the City Committee of the Socialist Youth Union. Also present at the meeting was Czechoslovak Ambassador to the Soviet Union Cestmir Lovetinsky.

The meeting was addressed by Comrade Viktor Grishin. On behalf of the Moscow Gorkom, the Moscow Gorispolkom, and the working people of the Soviet capital, Viktor Grishin warmly and cordially welcomed the guests:

[Begin Grishin recording in Russian with superimposed translation] Through you, the people of Moscow convey their fraternal greetings to the communists and all working people of the Czechoslovak capital. It is characteristic that these days are taking place in the year of the 35th anniversary of the February victory of the Czechoslovak working people over reaction.

Together with the Czechoslovak people, this anniversary will be recalled also by the Soviet people. (?Our party) and all our people praise the fact that the entire stage of postwar construction of socialism in Czechoslovakia has also been the stage of the ever stronger fraternal friendship and ever more developed cooperation between our countries and nations. A reliable foundation of Soviet-Czechoslovak friendship is the unity of the CPSU and the CPCZ, based on shared goals and loyalty to the immortal ideas of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism. A significant contribution to the strengthening of Czechoslovak-Soviet relations is being made by the multifaceted contacts between our capital cities. [end recording]

Comrade Grishin then reviewed the friendly contacts between dozens of production, students, scientific and youth collectives of Moscow and Prague. He spoke about the rich and interesting program of the "Prague Days in Moscow." In the course of these days, many meetings between Soviet and Czechoslovak friends will take place, at which the results achieved in 1982, a very important year for the Soviet Union, will be discussed. Comrade Grishin pointed out that the working people of Moscow had successfully fulfilled the 1982 plan (?as regards) the realization of the production and manufacture of the majority of the most important industrial goods, as well as regards other indices. He informed the meeting about the results of the socialist competition among the people of Moscow who had undertaken pledges in honor of the 60th anniversary of the foundation of the USSR, and about the tasks planned for 1983.

Comrade Grishin further said: [Begin Grishin recording in Russian with superimposed translation] For the realization of the plan of the construction of communism and socialism in the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia, and in all countries of the socialist community, permanent peace and detente are necessary. The Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, and other socialist countries speak up in the international arena as tireless and consistent supporters of peace. Their determination to support the cause of peace with their international authority and political and economic potential was confirmed most convincingly at the Warsaw Pact member states Political Consultative Committee session held in Prague in January 1983. The political declaration and other materials adopted at this session are of the utmost importance for the elimination of the danger of nuclear war and for the preservation of peace on earth. Particularly significant is the new proposal of the socialist countries -- a proposal for the conclusion of a treaty on mutual non-use of force and support for peace relations between the member states of two military and political groups, the Warsaw Pact and NATO.

The Prague session demonstrated that in the current conditions the role played by all-round cooperation of the socialist states and their coordinated activity is of a growing importance. The successes achieved by Soviet and Czechoslovak workers and the working people of other countries of the socialist community in the sphere of domestic and foreign policy -- these are the successes of our joint fight, the fight for the victory of the (?eternal) ideals of communism, for peace and security of nations. [end recording]

In conclusion, Viktor Grishin cordially greeted the participants in the Prague days and asked them to convey to the working people of Prague wishes for further successes in the construction of an advanced socialist society and for the fulfillment of the conclusions of the 16th CPCZ Congress.

[Begin Grishin recording in Russian with superimposed translation] May the inviolable Soviet-Czechoslovak friendship grow stronger and develop.

Long live the fraternal union between the CPSU and the CPCZ.

Long live peace and communism. [applause] [end recording]

The meeting to mark the start of the "Prague Days in Moscow" was also addressed by Antonin Kapek, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and chief secretary of the Prague Party Committee:

[Begin Kapek recording] Dear Muscovites: Allow me to give thanks for the sincere welcome delivered by Mikhail Vasilyevich, allow me to thank you, the people of Moscow, who represent, to quote the opening address, all strata of the working peoples of the capital city of Moscow. Allow me to thank the veterans for the liberation of Prague; the working people for the construction of communism and cooperation with Prague; the scientists and artists for their cooperation with the capital city of Prague. First, I want to express these feelings and thank you for our invitation. [applause]

With the feelings of sincere pleasure and fraternal love, we take part in this festive opening of the "Prague Days in Moscow." The two festivals, the "Prague Days in Moscow" and the "Moscow Days in Prague" have become a traditional expression of the long, continuously developing and strengthening fraternal friendship between our countries and their capitals. The thousands of meetings between the people of Prague and Moscow, working people from various enterprises and schools, cultural and public representatives, make an enormous contribution to enriching our internationalist relations and impregnate the multifaceted forms of our cooperation. Our friendship has deep historical roots. The stimulus and impulse for it came from the Great October Socialist Revolution [GOSR] and the creation of the USSR, the recent anniversary of which was celebrated by our people together with the Soviet people and the progressive forces of the whole world. The immortal effort of Vladimir Ilich Lenin, the (?bright) ideas of the GOSR, and the victorious fight of the first socialist state in the world for social progress and socialism have made a powerful impression on the Czech and Slovak working class, and inspired our nations and the communist party for a fight toward social justice, classless society and national independence. [end recording]

In talking about the great course followed by Czechoslovakia after the historic February victory, Kapek said that during the February days of 1948 an important role was played by the working people of the Czechoslovak capital. He further informed the meeting about the great contribution made by the working people of Prague to the development of Socialist Czechoslovakia, and emphasized that the Czechoslovak capital has been transformed into a great industrial and cultural center. Comrade Kapek acquainted the participants in the meeting with the long-term prospects for the development of Prague. He said, inter alia, that the state and party bodies pay constant attention and care to the cultural heritage of the Czechoslovak people. Comrade Antonin Kapek highly praised the multifaceted contacts between the working people of Prague and Moscow. He expressed the conviction that cooperation between Moscow and Prague enterprises, and scientific-research institutes and institutions will make a significant contribution to the development of the Czechoslovak economy. Antonin Kapek further said:

[Begin Kapek recording] In all spheres of the development of Prague, we always come across important cooperation with Soviet experts, the effective cooperation between our enterprises, schools and scientific and research institutes. A reliable platform for the exchange of experiences and for acquiring knowledge from Soviet science has been provided by the activity of the House of Soviet Science and Culture. [end recording]

Comrade Antonin Kapek went on to say that the working people of Czechoslovakia guard their friendship and alliance with the Soviet Union and give their unconditional support to the peace-loving policy of the Soviet Union. We shall make every effort for the course of progress and universal peace. Let the friendship between Moscow and Prague serve this goal.

[Begin Kapek recording] Long live the inviolable friendship of the Czechoslovak and Soviet people.

Long live the firm friendship of the working people of Prague and Moscow.

Long live the CPSU and the Czechoslovak party.

Long live socialism and peace.

With the Soviet Union for ever, never otherwise. [applause] [end recording]

LCY PRESIDIUM ANALYSES IDEOLOGICAL TASKS

PM071559 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jan 83 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "LCY Central Committee Presidium Session"]

[Text] Belgrade, 27 Jan -- As TANJUG reports, a session of the LCY Central Committee Presidium has been held here that discussed topical questions of the LCY's ideological-political activity.

The session noted, the report says, that the further development of socialist self-management in Yugoslavia depends considerably on the LCY's pursuit of a unified ideological-political course. The activity of LCY organizations must help to strengthen the LCY's leading role in society, consolidate united action and promote the struggle to resolve urgent socioeconomic problems.

The session also indicated that in recent years the LCY had paid insufficient attention to ideological work questions. This has led to the emergence of ideological fluctuations within the party. Certain strata of Yugoslav society are displaying indifference to social matters and an isolationism within narrow regional boundaries is emerging. Attempts are being made to undermine the socialist revolution's main gains and to dislodge the LCY from the sphere of ideological struggle.

It is incumbent on the LCY, the session stressed, to firmly oppose these reactionary actions. To strengthen the LCY's leading role it is necessary to improve party work methods in the cultivation of socialist consciousness. When waging the ideological struggle, communists must set clear and precise aims. When examining questions of political, economic and cultural development, it is necessary to take constant account of the experience accumulated by working people in production and social activity. That is the path toward strengthening the LCY's ties with the broad working masses.

ANNIVERSARY OF FRIENDSHIP TREATY WITH ROMANIA

USSR Greetings Message

PM031843 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Feb 83 First Edition p 1

[Message from the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers to Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP general secretary and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, and Constantin Dascalescu, prime minister of the Socialist Republic of Romania, on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance Between the Soviet Union and the Socialist Republic of Romania]

[Text] To Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP general secretary and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania

To Comrade Constantin Dascalescu, prime minister of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania

The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers send to you and to the fraternal Romanian people cordial [serdechnyy] congratulations and best wishes on the 35th anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance Between the Soviet Union and Romania.

The treaty signed 4 February 1948 sealed the historic turn in Soviet-Romanian relations and was the basis for the development of the fraternal friendship and all-round mutually advantageous cooperation between our countries and peoples. The treaty's conclusion promoted both the strengthening of socialism's positions and our common struggle against the intriguew of the imperialist forces, and it became an important factor in the creation of favorable conditions for the development of the new, socialist Romania.

The ideas invested in the treaty and the accumulated experience of Soviet-Romanian friendly relations underwent further development in the new Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance Between the USSR and the Socialist Republic of Romania signed 7 July 1970. This treaty, which cemented the allied relations between our peoples, was a reliable basis for the further deepening and broadening of cooperation between the USSR and Romania both bilaterally and within the framework of the Warsaw Pact and CEMA.

The CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government, invariably advocating the further consolidation of the unity and cohesion of the socialist community countries, express the confidence that the fraternal friendship and the cooperation between the Soviet Union and Socialist Romania will continue to develop on the immovable principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism.

On this noteworthy day we wish the fraternal Romanian people further successes in socialist building and in the struggle to combat the threat of war and ensure a stable peace in Europe and throughout the world.

CPSU Central Committee

USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

USSR Council of Ministers

Ivanov Commentary

AU041822 Moscow in Romanian to Romania 1700 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Vladimir Ivanov commentary on the 35th anniversary of the first Soviet-Romanian friendship treaty]

[Text] Moscow radio commentator Vladimir Ivanov writes: The treaty signed by the USSR and Romania in 1948 was primarily a political act of outstanding importance which substantially (?strengthened) the creation of the world socialist system at the international level. The treaty contributed to increasing the prestige of the new social system in Romania, since it was the first treaty in its history concluded with a great power on the basis of principles of full equality of rights. This document included guarantees against interference by imperialist circles in the country's domestic affairs, which represented a very serious problem in those postwar years. This treaty also created the necessary prerequisites for developing fruitful cooperation between the USSR and Romania in all fields -- political, military, economic and cultural.

Dr Petru Groza, the prime minister of the Romanian Government, who led a Romanian delegation to Moscow for the treaty-signing ceremony, said on that occasion: The experience of our cooperation allows us to hope that, by firmly following the path of friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and the people of young Romania, we will contribute to the flourishing of our peoples.

The text of the treaty makes its universal character absolutely clear; its main feature is the principle of joint progress along the road of overall development included in each article of that document. This idea was also stressed in all subsequent documents on developing bilateral relations in accordance with the interests of both countries, documents that opened up the road to continuously expanding these relations. The main form of these contacts is represented by regular meetings between our countries' party-state leaders, who agree on joint actions at the international level and coordinate various socioeconomic ventures.

It is worth mentioning that this cooperation is based on the principle of mutual advantage. At the beginning of this cooperation, Romania was particularly interested in acquiring technical documentation -- actually 3,000 such technical materials were sent to Romania -- and later Romania itself became an important producer of industrial equipment, not only for meeting domestic requirements but also for exports, including to the USSR. On the basis of long-term agreements, our country imports half of the railroad cars, a third of the vessels and a large quantity of the oil equipment manufactured by Romania. The machine-building sector provides for 30 percent of the trade between the USSR and the Socialist Republic of Romania. Within the bilateral cooperation with the USSR, Romania successfully uses production-sharing agreements to raise the level of its economy. On the other hand, the Soviet Union continues to deliver high-quality equipment to Romania. [Passage indistinct] A large share of the Soviet exports to Romania is made up of heavy industrial equipment and fuel.

The Soviet-Romanian cooperation has recently expanded in the field of nuclear energy. The ties between the USSR and the Socialist Republic of Romania have long since [words indistinct]. There are more than 20 sister cities in both countries. Cooperation between working collectives in institutes, enterprises and ministries in both countries has expanded. A festival of Romanian plays is currently being held in the USSR; last year a similar Soviet festival was held in Romania, with 50 plays by Russian and Soviet writers.

In today's commentary, we only mentioned a small part of the fields of our cooperation. But the number and forms of cooperation ventures mentioned here are not important. What is important is that we clearly stressed that the first Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance Between the USSR and Romania signed 35 years ago was aimed at deepening and expanding our cooperation. For this purposes, regular meetings are being organized between party aktivists, economic experts and artists of the two countries. Permanent governmental bodies have been set up. The commission for economic and scientific-technical cooperation between our countries will shortly hold its next session in Bucharest with a view to finding new ways and means to improve the Soviet-Romanian comprehensive ties.

These efforts have had outstanding results. We highly assess the upward course of warm friendship and solidarity between the RCP and CPSU and between our countries and peoples based on principles of scientific-socialism, Marxism-Leninism, full equality of rights, mutual respect, noninterference in domestic affairs and mutual comradely assistance, said Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu at the 26th CPSU Congress.

Grammatchikov Commentary

LD051608 Moscow in Czech and Slovak to Czechoslovakia 1700 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Georgiy Grammatchikov commentary]

[Text] It is 35 years today since the signing of the Soviet-Romanian Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance. The document laid firm foundations for the fraternal, equal and mutually advantageous relations between the two countries. The treaty was signed soon after the Romanian republic declaration; and it helped to strengthen the authority of the new democratic system and become a guarantee against interference by imperialist forces in Romanian internal affairs. The conclusion of the Soviet-Romanian treaty was also a substantial contribution to the formation of the world socialist system. Like other similar bilateral treaties between socialist countries, the treaty reflected our people's endeavor to attain, through joint effort, common aims.

Thirty-five years ago Romania was one of backward European countries. It faced bad economic and social problems: illiteracy of the people, a high rate of child mortality, unemployment, shortage of houses and so forth. During socialist construction Romania has changed into a country with an advance industry, which produced 60 times more than under the previous social system. Great achievements have been reached in agriculture; working people's living standards have increased rapidly and general free education has been secured for them as well as the possibility to enjoy all cultural attainments. These achievements were made possible primarily by the selfless work of the Romanian people.

At the same time Romania's militlateral cooperation with the USSR and the other socialist countries has played an important part. Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP general secretary and Romanian president said in his recent speech in Moscow to mark the 60th anniversary of USSR: We have devoted and will continue to devote unswervingly our main attention to building cooperation with all socialist countries and especially with our neighbors. We ascribe particular importance to the traditional relations with the USSR. The process of formation and advancement of the Romanian socialist economy is inseparable from the cooperation with the USSR. The USSR provided Romania with help in the reconstruction and building of over 120 different projects that above all are part of important industries: energy, metallurgy, engineering and chemistry. These projects helped Romania not only to increase economic potential but also to reduce imports of industrial products and raw materials. Romania is now building with Soviet help a large heating plant, pulp mill and rolling mill. The economic plans of USSR and Romania are closely coordinated; a long-term program of advancement of specialization and cooperation between the USSR and Romania until 1990 is being successfully implemented. The USSR is Romania's main foreign trade partner. In this 5-year plan period the volume of mutual supplies compared to the last 5-year plan will almost double. An example of the Soviet people's fraternal relations with their Romanian friends was also their selfless help to Romania in overcoming the consequences of an earthquake in 1977. [Passage indistinct]

Contacts between Romania and the other socialist countries are also actively developing. The Socialist Republic of Romania takes part in the implementation of 200 multilateral agreements in the CEMA. Romania's national power system is connected with Soviet, Czechoslovak, Polish, East German and Hungarian systems. Romania exchanges electric power with Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. Along with the other CEMA countries Romania takes an active part in large projects in the USSR and Cuba.

Romania implements its peace-loving foreign policy course in close unity with the fraternal countries. Along with the other Warsaw Pact countries Romania is for making the situation in the world healthier and for eliminating the threat of a nuclear war. Romania signed the Prague political declaration, which contains an appeal to mutual nonuse of military force and maintenance of peaceful relations between the NATO and the Warsaw Pact member states.

Yuriy Vladimirovitsch Andropov, CPSU Central Committee secretary general, emphasized in the speech on the results of the Prague conference of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee that the issues of strengthening friendship and advancement of cooperation with the fraternal countries always had and will have a special prominent place in Soviet foreign policy. This is fully true also about relations with Romania. The advancement of relations between the USSR and Romania serves the interests of the two countries and the entire socialist community.

RUSAKOV MEETS SED POLITBURO MEMBER MUECKENBERGER

LD042140 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 16J0 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Text] Comrade Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee has had a meeting with Mueckenberger, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and president of the GDR-Soviet Friendship Society, who had been taking part in events being held in the USSR in connection with the 25th anniversary of the formation of the Soviet Society of Friendship with the GDR. Taking part in the conversation, which was held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, were Comrade Kruglova and Lapin, members of the CPSU Central Committee, and also Winkelmann, GDR ambassador to the USSR.

CPSU'S ROMANOV RECEIVES BULGARIA'S LUKANOV

PM070947 Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jan 83 p 1

[LENTASS report: "Strengthening Fraternal Ties"]

[Excerpt] At the Smolnyy yesterday, G.V. Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of Leningrad Party Obkom, received A. Lukanov, candidate member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, who is visiting our country.

During the conversation, G.V. Romanov described the main avenues of Leningrad party organization activity in implementing the the 26th CPSU Congress and CPSU Central Committee November (1982) Plenum decisions and the tasks arising from the plenum speech by Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and his report "60 Years of the USSR".

A. Lukanov described the work of the republic's working people to implement the 12th BCP Congress decisions.

During the meeting, they stressed the great inernational significance of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee Prague conference and the documents it adopted in the cause of further rallying the fraternal socialist community countries and relaxing tension.

V.G. Zakharov, secretary of Leningrad CPSU Obkom, took part in the talk.

D. Zhulev, Bulgarian ambassador to the Soviet Union, was at the talk.

U.S. 'INTERFERENCE' IN FRG ELECTION CHARGED

LD081512 Moscow TASS in English 1426 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 8 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Vladimir Serov writes:

High-placed representatives of Bonn, among them FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher tried to create the impression in a number of their latest statement that the present impasse at the Geneva talks on nuclear arms limitation in Europe is allegedly explained by the fact that the Soviet Union, expecting the results of the elections in the FRG, has no wish to change its stand on the matter. Speaking in Bonn at the so-called "Thematic Congress on Questions of the Policy of Security and Disarmament," Chancellor Kohl in this connection even accused the USSR of the striving to influence the election campaign in the FRG.

It must be said outright that such accusations clearly have a wrong address.

First, the impasse at the Geneva talks formed not at all at the fault of the USSR but as a result of the clearly unacceptable stand of the United States which even most Western leaders regard as unrealistic and having a clearly propaganda character. It must be noted that the Soviet Union quite recently advanced a new constructive proposal envisaging a radical reduction of nuclear armaments in Europe to the levels equal for the USSR and NATO. Washington for many months now has been insisting on its initial, clearly unacceptable psuedo-zero option, which is blocking the Geneva talks. The Soviet Union is not at all awaiting the results of the elections in the FRG, as this is asserted by certain Bonn leaders, but is striving to achieve in Geneva an arrangement on a mutually acceptable basis if the same striving is manifested by the U.S. side.

Second, if anyone is to be blamed for interference in the election campaign that started in the FRG, such an accusation should be addressed to Washington, namely to U.S. Vice President George Bush who started his European tour with the visit to the FRG and a clearly propagandist speech in West Berlin. Political observers noted unanimously that the main aim of his visit is to weaken the effect of the Soviet peace initiative that evoked a broad positive response in the West and to give propaganda backing to the CDU/CSU [Christian Democratic Union/Christian Socialist Union] party that is now at the lead of the ruling coalition, the party with the use of which Washington intends to achieve deployment of new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in the FRG. This is why George Bush was so lauding the clearly unrealistic "zero option" which is at the basis of the foreign policy platform of the CDU/CSU.

It is indicative that, according to the admission of some U.S. leaders, it is realised in Washington that it will be necessary to discard the "zero option" in some way or other, but Washington cannot take this step before the elections in the FRG precisely for the reason that it is on this "option" that the CDU/CSU election campaign is based.

Is it not clear in this light who is it that really interferes in the election struggle in the FRG?

KOHL 'MAIN PROPAGANDIST' FOR U.S. ZERO OPTION

PM081627 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 3

[V. Prokofyev "Rejoinder": "Helmut Kohl and the U.S. 'Zero'"]

[Text] Armament or disarmament -- that is the problem which has become the focus of the election struggle in the FRG. That is understandable. In the fall of 1983 the United States plans to deploy medium-range strategic nuclear missiles in West Europe.

The 108 Pershing II missiles and the majority of cruise missiles are to be taken on by the FRG, where there is already not a clump of land which is not bristling with foreign or its own weapons. Everywhere technical preparation is under way for the installation of these missiles, which will turn the FRG into a launchpad for first-strike weapons, with all the ensuing consequences.

The West Germans are aware of the very dangerous whirlpool into which they are being drawn. To judge by public opinion polls, the opponents of "missile arms upgrading also comprise a majority among the supporters of the conservative Christian Democratic Union/ Christian Social Union [CDU/CSU] -- the parties of H. Kohl and F.-J. Strauss.

One more characteristic element. There is an increasingly widespread conviction in the FRG that the United States is not interested in the success of the talks with the USSR on nuclear arms in Europe and is therefore clinging obstinately to the so-called "zero option," conceived, as U.S. officials themselves have admitted, merely as a distraction. Indeed, to be precise, this conviction has also spread in other West European countries: The demand that Washington moderate its militarist appetites and examine in a business-like way the constructive Soviet proposals has swept the continent and, it is reported, caused considerable disquiet in and around the White House.

The "zero option" deplayed the start of specific negotiation for over a year. But it could not and cannot give the opponents of an accord any more. The "zero" has exhausted itself in both political and propaganda terms. We can only be surprised at how long people were led by the nose by this primitive sham.

The entire question now hinges on whether the United States has or ever has had a positive stance in reserve? Has it ever seriously considered the likelihood of its NATO allies refusing to deploy the missiles even if Washington essentially openly sabotages the Geneva talks? Or has it become so attached to the idea of undermining nuclear parity in Europe and acquiring one-sided advantages here that it is always trying to persuade its allies that that has never even occurred to it?

Obviously the Reagan administration will hold on to the "zero" to the last; to the last West European figure to agree to sell his soul to this "zero" as Faust did with the Devil. Why not continue to play the dirty game second handedly? And via the press, Washington plants the argument that it would correct the "zero" but does not want to let down FRG Chancellor H. Kohl for the chancellor has linked himself too closely with the "zero" and a revision of this "zero" could cost him dearly.

It is not out of the question that U.S. correspondents are adding something on their own account. However, on one point they are accurate -- in recent days H. Kohl has been acting as the main "zero" propagandist. In his own government and in the CDU/CSU bloc he is singing solo anthems to the "zero" for even F.-J. Strauss has recognized that the "zero option" is a barren flower.

For H. Kohl the "zero" is also "a contribution to the cause of peace," an initiative of "great moral significance" and an invitation to the other side "to make every effort to achieve an honest and sensible agreement." If we are to believe H. Kohl, "not a single sensible person can have any objection" to the "zero." So that's where immoderate zeal can lead you! Washington is probably marveling at the FRG chancellor, who is thinking up for the "zero" epithets which the actual authors of the option aimed at the USSR'S unilateral disarmament cannot bring themselves to pronounce.

We shall wait and see how the U.S. supporters of an arms race to a victorious conclusion reward the "services" from the Rhine. But somehow I do not believe that the eulogies to the "zero" are falling on fertile ground in the FRG itself. There as throughout Europe, people have grown tired of waiting for a move from the "zero" to action, to an examination of the real question, to making headway, and they have grown tired of marking time at zero.

FRG PRESS COVERAGE OF ANDROPOV PROPOSALS

LD032250 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Correspondent Valentin Zapevalov report from Bonn]

[Text] The replies of CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrde Andropov are the center of attention in the political life of the FRG. All the country's leading papers today publish the complete text or the fundamental propositions of his interview. Consideration is primarily given to the USSR proposal to remove all types of nuclear weapons, both tactical and medium-range, in Europe. The paper SUED DEUTSCHE ZEITUNG says that General Secretary Comrade Andropov is basically positively disposed also to the prospect of a meeting with U.S. President Reagan. However, the paper stresses, this summit meeting is no political or propaganda game for the Soviet Union, but should aid the search for mutually acceptable solutions to topical problems and promote the development of relations between the two countries. Even the conservative press is unable to hide its disappointment at Washington's policy. "The Unrealistic Stance of the United States Is Blocking the Geneva talks" -- this is the title of the article in which Andropov's replies to the newspaper PRAVDA are carried in the reputable GEMEINE ZEITUNG.

FRG MINISTER'S REMARKS PROVOKE 'SHARP CRITICISM'

PM071145 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 2 Feb 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Provocative Statement]

[Text] Bonn, 1 Feb -- A recent statement by FRG Interior Minister F. Zimmermann (Christian Social Union) at a meeting with Bavarian Revanchists has provoked sharp criticism in FRG political circles. The West German minister stated categorically that "neither the FRG's eastern treaties nor the treaty on the foundations of relations with the GDR" can be regarded as a "definitive solution on the German question."

Karsten Voigt, an expert on foreign policy questions for the Social Democratic Party faction in the Bundestag, demanded F. Zimmermann's resignation from his post in the present Bonn government. He based his demand on the fact that the interior minister had said in Munich: "The new FRG Government will not limit the resolution of the German question to the framework of the FRG and the GDR but will also include territories on the other side of the Oder and Neisse."

Pursuing the course of Christian Social Union Leader F.-J. Strauss," Hans Buechler, spokesman for the Social Democratic faction in the Bundestag, noted in this connection, "F. Zimmermann has broken the promise made last October by the Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union-Free Democratic Party government to "consistently continue the FRG Ostopolitik started by the previous Bonn Cabinet."

DER SPIEGEL: USSR ENVOY TO BONN MAY BE REPLACED

DW071233 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 7 Feb 83 p 14

[Text] Since the visit by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko in January, there have been indications in Bonn that Moscow's Ambassador Vladimir Semenov will be soon replaced and pensioned off. The 71-year-old high ranking diplomat has represented the Soviet Union in the Federal Republic since November 1978. Aleksandr Bondarenko is being mentioned as a possible successor to the ailing Semenov. Bondarenko has been chief of the Third European Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry for many years and is considered by Bonn diplomats as "the one pulling the strings of Soviet policy toward Germany." Another possibility is Anatoliy Blatov, who is an expert on Germany and a former adviser to Brezhnev.

FRG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HEAD ON TRADE WITH USSR

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Dec 82 p 4

[PRAVDA correspondent Yu. Yakhontov dispatch: "Potential and Prospects"]

[Text] Bonn, December -- Economic relations between the FRG and the USSR have developed very dynamically in the past two decades, particularly in the 1970's, Otto Wolf von Amerongen, president of the FRG Chambers of Commerce and Industry Association, declared in conversation with your correspondent.

Commodity turnover in trade between the two countries increased from DM800 million in 1959 to DM16.9 billion in 1981. If the development continues at the January-August pace, O. Wolf von Amerongen believes, commodity turnover this year could for the first time reach the unprecedented level of DM21 billion. This means that it will have increased 25 percent over last year. Even if account is taken of the fact that prices have not stood still in this period, a considerable increase in the trade volume has been achieved, nonetheless. Despite the difficulties engendered by the difference in social systems, economic cooperation as a whole has been of benefit to both countries.

"As far as economic relations going beyond the framework of simple commodity exchange are concerned," the association president continued, "we should preserve and perfect the new forms found in the course of cooperation. I am thinking here of technical exchange between enterprises, production cooperation and also prospects of our cooperation in third countries. Such complex forms of mutual economic relations require thorough and long preparation. And, if it can be so put, the teamwork of the partners. I see here definite possibilities for placing our bilateral economic relations on a broader footing."

Turning then to the question of potential for the further development of relations between the FRG and the Soviet Union, O. Wolf von Amerongen said:

"Energy raw material constitutes a considerable part of our imports from the USSR. The FRG is poor in energy resources and for this reason depends on supplies from outside. Nonetheless, the high volume of Soviet supplies of energy carriers should prompt us to think how to increase the proportion of industrial commodities in Soviet exports to the FRG.

"The second Soviet trade and industry exhibition, which took place in Dusseldorf recently, provided interesting ideas in this context. It demonstrated a variety of proposals of an export nature: both in the sphere of capital-intensive industrial products and consumer goods. The exhibits showed to a large interested circle of our public that trade between the FRG and the USSR is not only oil and gas, however important for us they may be.

"New opportunities for an extension of our economic relations, the FRG Chamber of Commerce and Industry Association president continued, could be provided by the present phase of the development of the Soviet economy. If I understand the current Soviet 5-year plan correctly, growth henceforward is to be achieved primarily not so much thanks to the construction of new enterprises as to the modernization of operating enterprises and the rationalization of production processes, that is, thanks to a decisive increase in labor productivity. And in this sphere also our medium-sized enterprises could participate more extensively than in the realization of large-scale projects and make active use of their technical flexibility to the benefit of both parties."

Having then touched on the reaction of West German business circles to the recent session of the USSR-FRG Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation Commission, O. Wolf von Amerongen observed that the 11th session was held shortly after the new government had been formed in Bonn. For this reason West German firms received with

particular interest what the new federal government stated concerning its intention to maintain continuity in bilateral relations with the USSR within the framework of existing agreements and further develop good economic cooperation between the two countries. We should also view in this context the fact that, for example, a joint specialized power engineering group was set up. It is in this sphere that there appear to be particularly promising opportunities for our countries' economies. This applies to all spheres: the production and shipment of energy, power engineering and energy accumulation.

Nevertheless, the main, general topic of the session was engineering. Our machinery exports to the Soviet Union have very long traditions, primarily in the sphere of machine-tool building. In some areas these business relations have gradually grown into production cooperation, primarily in the spheres in which the Soviet Union itself has powerful and developed engineering. We have already achieved things here, but much still remains to be done since the volume of cooperation agreement contracts is still too modest -- in relation to the total volume of commodity turnover. However, the commission looked into this question in detail: Nine work groups are studying different aspects of cooperation in engineering alone.

Thus the participants in the session contributed to the realization of a long-term program of the basic directions of cooperation between the USSR and the FRG in the sphere of the economy and industry, the FRG Chambers of Commerce and Industry Association president said in conclusion.

PRAVDA ON U.S. ECONOMIC 'PRESSURE' ON W. EUROPE

LD071132 Moscow TASS in English 0832 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 7 TASS -- Contradictions between the United States and Western Europe now cover a broad range of problems -- economic, political and military. The greatest rift in relations between the Atlantic partners is in the sphere of economy and trade, Igor Melnikov writes in PRAVDA today.

The U.S. Administration, he pointed out, employs, showing much cynicism at that, a wide range of techniques of pressure on its European partners. Dumping, protectionist barriers and behind-the-scene collusions are used. The artificial increase of bank interest rates in the United States resulted in a capital outflow from Western Europe, augmented unemployment and multiplied the number of bankruptcies.

The article points out that 'Washington's insincerity and egoism were graphically revealed in its attempts to frustrate the gas-pipes deal between the USSR and a number of Western European countries. The United States hampered in all ways the fulfilment of the contract, but it had, ultimately, to abandon its sanctions. Nevertheless, the White House tried to present its retreat in the eyes of the public as a will of the Western European governments to find a common denominator with the United States in restricting "trade deals in the East".

"The zigzags of the 'tough economic policy' of the Reagan administration, no matter how much it is tilted towards anti-Sovietism," Igor Melnikov writes, "hides another, concealed purpose: to weaken competitors in Western Europe and hinder promising large-scale deals with the USSR and other socialist countries. Political and business circles in the old world cannot, even if they wished to, turn a blind eye to this."

"It would be erroneous, however," the article points out, "to regard even the most acute contradictions as collapse of the 'Western alliance': The quarrels occur in one, capitalist home. Still, despite the class nature of the alliance with U.S. imperialism and community of many interests within the NATO framework, ruling circles of Western European states cannot fail to see at what point their interests with the United States diverge. This is related, first of all, to Washington's imperial ambitions and nuclear adventurism leading to a catestrophe. Apparently, the Western Europeans do not want to follow Washington in this."

ITALIAN PAPER'S DISARMAMENT STANCE DECRIED

LD072132 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2045 GMT 7 Feb 83

[By TASS commentator Yuriy Magari]

[Text] Moscow, 7 Feb (TASS) -- Certain organs of the Italian press recently have displayed an example of really humiliating readiness to follow a course planned for the entire Western bloc thousands of kilometers from Rome, by far away Washington. The tone for these articles has been set by the newspaper IL POPOLO, the organ of the Christian-Democratic Party. With assumed indignation, it writes about a "campaign of intimidation and blackmail" allegedly unleashed by Moscow which is dissatisfied with NATO "defense policy." If one is to listen to IL POPOLO, the USSR is striving for "unconditional capitulation of Western Europe, a symbol of capitalism which is experiencing a crisis."

It is difficult to say what such assertions contain more of provincial naivete, an aspiration to curry favor with a leader over the ocean or a desire to deceive the readers.

Of course we are far from thinking that the "free" press would display at least a minimum degree of objectivity in its presentation of the real USSR stance on disarmament issues. However, we cannot but recall once again what the Warsaw Treaty member-states are trying to achieve and what NATO bloc is striving for.

By rejecting (as opposed to the United States) the possibility of a first nuclear strike; by rejecting (as opposed to the United States and its allies) the idea of "a limited nuclear war;" by proposing (as opposed to them) to establish in Europe levels of nuclear armaments and nuclear-weapon-carrying aircraft, equal on both sides; by agreeing to go as far as the West will go in the questions of disarmament, the USSR and its allies clearly have made their choice for the benefit of peace.

In making their territory available for the possible delivery of a first nuclear strike against the USSR and its allies, in agreeing with U.S. concepts of a "limited nuclear war," and in striving to ensure NATO military superiority at the point such a war starts in an insane calculation on the victory of the United States, the voluntary (or enforced) servants of the Pentagon are making a choice for themselves and for their peoples a favor of destruction.

People of good will, adhering to the most varied ideologies, nonbelievers just as Catholics, have raised their voices recently against such a choice. The Roman Catholic Church both in Italy and in the United States itself has clearly expressed itself for life and against atomic death.

But IL POPOLO, which calls itself a Christian Democratic organ, prefers to tail along with those whose only god is the atomic bomb.

MOSCOW DAILY RESPONDS TO ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY

LD041924 Moscow TASS in English 1901 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 4 TASS -- In connection with the report by the Italian Foreign Ministry, which denied the credibility of the article in the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA quoting Italian sources as saying that U.S. Pershing missiles could be deployed on Italy's territory, the editorial board of the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA said:

The article published in Moscow is based solely on Italian sources, in particular the publications in the newspaper CORRIERE DELLA SERA, which wrote on October 27 last year in a story on Italy's foreign policy about the readiness for the deployment of cruise and Pershing missiles in Sicily.

Thus, a spokesman for the Moscow newspaper added, the foreign minister would be well advised to address all questions not to SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, but to the Italian mass media.

FRENCH DEFENSE MINISTER TOURS NUCLEAR FORCE SITES

LD031704 Moscow TASS in English 1356 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] Paris February 3 TASS -- French National Defense Minister Charles Hernu has made the third in the last ten days inspection tour of French nuclear force sites. After a visit to a nuclear-powered missile submarine of the oceanic strategic force and the base of inter-continental ballistic missiles, the minister visited the strategic airforce base in Luxeuil area in De La Haute Saone department in the west of France. The minister said that he intended to visit also a number of other French military bases, where delivery vehicles of nuclear weapons are deployed.

According to reports in Paris newspapers, the French strategic airforce has a total of 36 aircraft carrying nuclear bombs. In addition, the FRANCE PRESSE AGENCY points out, the aircraft carriers "Foch" and Cleamanceau carry on board Super-Etendard aircraft used for the delivery of nuclear weapons.

AUCCTU, CGT PUBLISH JOINT STATEMENT IN PARIS

LD090044 Moscow in French to Europe 1730 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] The trade unions of the Soviet Union and France have invited workers in Europe to do everything possible to ensure security and peace on the continent. This is contained in a joint statement by the leaders of the trade union centers of the two countries, published after their meeting in Paris. The Soviet delegation was led by AUCCTU chairman Stepan Shalayev and the General Labor Confederation [CGT] delegation by CGT Secretary General Henri Krasucki. The negotiators noted that the NATO plans to deploy new U.S. nuclear medium-range missiles in Western Europe is a special danger. The CGT delegation said that the French working class is firmly against the deployment of nuclear weapons in Europe and calls for the manufacturing of neutron bombs to be prohibited.

SUSPENSION OF GREEK-U.S. TALKS ON BASES NOTED

'Conflict' of 'National Interests'

LD042031 Moscow in Greek to Greece 1600 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Text] The Greek-American talks on the future of the American war bases in Greece, being held in Athens, are to be suspended on Saturday. A spokesman for the American Embassy has announced that the head of the U.S. delegation, Reginald Bartholomew, is to return to Washington. His departure is seen as connected with the repeated statements of Prime Minister Papandreou regarding the necessity of fixing a set date for the abolition of the American bases. In the opinion of the Greek prime minister those bases serve only the strategic interests of the USA and do nothing for Greece's national defense. Meanwhile there has been intense criticism in the country over the statements of Evangelos Averof that the existence of the American war bases in Greece allegedly meets the country's defense interests and those of the West. The democratic forces in the country have described these statements as coming in conflict with the national interests of Greece. In a statement issued by the executive office of PASOK [Panhellenic Socialist Movement] on the matter, it is stressed that the stand of the new democracy conflicts with the demands of the majority of the Greek people.

'Without Any Results'

LD061350 Moscow TASS in English 1248 GMT 6 Feb 83

[Text] Athens February 6 TASS -- Another round of the Greek-American talks on the future of the American military bases on Greek territory has ended without any results. The talks were suspended until the end of the month and, as local observers stress, no progress was achieved on any of the issues under discussion.

The talks started in October last year. They concern the future status of four large bases on Greek territory used by the United States on a temporary basis after the Greek-American agreement of 1953 expired six years ago. Proceeding from the great strategic importance of these facilities, the United States has exerted strong pressure on Athens to secure the bases on the country's territory and endorse their status, which suits Washington, in a new agreement.

According to an official spokesman for the Greek Government, if the United States refuses to meet Greece's demands in the course of the talks. the Greek side will demand the removal of the American bases from its territory. So far, as Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou stressed, the parties to the talks failed to agree even on one item.

The prime minister singled out as the most important points the elaboration of a precise schedule for closing the U.S. bases in the future and conditions for the functioning of these facilities, including the status of their personnel and possible control over their work on the part of the Greek authorities, as well as account of the balance of forces in the region.

Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou stressed in his letter to U.S. President Ronald Reagan that the implementation of the White House's plans to nearly double American military aid to Turkey will upset, in the opinion of the Greek side, the balance of forces between Greece and Turkey. All this, it is believed in Athens, may affect the outcome of the Greek-American talks on the bases.

A statement by a spokesman for the U.S. State Department, that in case the Greek-American talks produce an "acceptable accord", the White House may consider the question of increasing military aid to Greece as well, is viewed here as evidence of Washington's another attempt to put pressure on the Greek Government.

GREEK PREMIER OPPOSES U.S. MILITARY AID TO TURKEY

LD051404 Moscow TASS in English 1330 GMT 5 Feb 83

[Text] Athens February 5 TASS -- Prime Minister Andreas Papandreous of Greece has sent a letter to United States President Ronald Reagan. In the letter he expressed a sharp disagreement with the White House plans to almost double U.S. military aid to Turkey. If U.S. Congress endorses Ronald Reagan's proposals, Turkey will receive U.S. military aid to the tune of 755 million dollars in the 1984 financial year as against 400 million dollars in the current financial year. The opinion of the Greek side is that the realization of these plans will result in upsetting the balance of forces between Greece and Turkey. As is reckoned in Athens, that may influence the outcome of Greek-U.S. talks on U.S. military bases in the territory of Greece.

Speaking at a press conference here, Andreas Papandreou pointed out that at those talks the sides have not yet come to any agreement, since their stands greatly diverge. Discussions on all the existing problems are going on, the prime minister said.

He recalled that the matter concerns, in particular, the need to ensure balance of forces in this part of the world.

London February 5 TASS -- The newspaper TIMES writes today that relations between the USA and Greece have deterioriated after Washington's decision to increase military aid to Turkey, which, in the opinion of the Greek side, will put in jeopardy the correlation of forces in the Balkans. The newspaper writes that the Greek leaders are apparently convinced that the USA, by acting so, seeks to put pressure on the government of the Greek Socialists and to secure that it show greater flexibility at the deadlocked talks on the future of U.S. bases in that country.

TURKEY'S EVREN CITES 'FRIENDLY' TIES WITH USSR

PM071553 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jan 83 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Turkish President's Statement"]

[Text] Ankara, 26 Jan -- Turkey seeks to develop friendly relations with the Soviet Union based on the principles of good-neighborliness and peace. This was stated by Turkish President Kenan Evren in an interview for the United Arab Emirates newspaper Al-FAJR.

Touching on the Near East crisis, K. Evren stressed that the establishment of a stable, lasting peace in the region is only possible on condition that Israeli troops withdraw from the occupied Arab territories and that the legitimate right of the Arab people of Palestine to determine their own destiny is acknowledged.

COMMODITY TRADE AGREEMENT WITH TURKEY SIGNED

PM071621 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "USSR-Turkey: Agreement Concluded"]

[Text] An agreement on commodity turnover between the USSR and Turkey for 1983-1985 has been signed in the Turkish capital.

In accordance with it Soviet machines, machine tools and equipment, transport facilities, mineral fertilizers, medical suplies and other commodities will be delivered to Turkey. Traditional Turkish export commodities will in turn be sent to the Soviet Union, TASS resports.

CYPRUS: AKEL-DIKO ELECTION PROGRAM ASSESSED

NC082023 Moscow in Greek to Cyprus 1800 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] Dear listeners, the presidential elections in Cyprus will be held on 13 February. Many things in the country's life will depend on the result of the elections, including the prospects for a Cyprus settlement.

Our commentator writes: The days until Sunday are numbered. However, the persistent political struggle does not cool down in the Megalonisos [Cyprus]. The presidential candidates are trying to win the voters' sympathy. Who will carry out the will of the majority of Cypriots, and what line will he be implementing? The imminent future will answer these questions.

AKEL [Progressive Party of the Working People] and the Democratic Party [DIKO] last April announced their joint minimum program, which in essence stood as a joint platform of cooperation in the sectors of domestic and foreign policy. AKEL and DIKO simultaneously declared that they support the candidacy of the incumbent Cypriot president, Spiros Kiprianou, for his reelection for a new term of office. The Cypriot president himself stressed in his recent speech that their joint program shows the way to solving Cyprus' problems.

So, which is this way? AKEL and DIKO aim, according to the program, at creating an independent, sovereign, territorially integral and federal state consisting of two regions and would secure the unity of the country and people as well as the protection of their inalienable rights. Both parties want to see Cyprus truly independent, democratic, nonaligned and free from any foreign military presence. The parties believe that the republic's foreign policy must be an anti-imperialist, anticolonialist and antifascist policy of peace -- a policy of a nonaligned state in support of detente and mutual understanding.

The two parties believe, as in the past, that the intercommunal talks under the UN auspices, and on the basis of UN resolutions and the summit agreements, are the most appropriate organ for the solution of the internal aspects of the Cyprus issue. AKEL and DIKO also support the idea of internationalizing the Cyprus issue and the Soviet Union's proposal for the convocation of a respresentative international conference on Cyprus, within the UN framework, which would contribute to the solution of the Cyprus issue's foreign aspects.

The joint program also provides for the implementation of a line that would secure a broad cooperation among the patriotic and democratic forces as well as the people's unity, the country's constant development, the protection and improvement of democratic institutions, the smoothening of intercommunal relations and the rapprochement of Greek and Turkish Cypriots. At the same time, the AKEL-DIKO democratic cooperation means that the two parties fully oreserve their independence and ideological orientation. Their different ideological directions do not prevent their cooperation in defending the Cypriot people's vital interests. Spiros Kiprianou, Cypriot president and DIKO chairman, has announced the minimum program as an official program of the government.

The cooperation agreement between the two parties has been approved by the majority of the Cypriot people. The Cypriots have justifiably seen in this [agreement] the realistic hope for political stability and further development of Cyprus along the democratic path. It is difficult for one to underestimate the significance of this agreement precisely because a just Cyprus solution can be achieved within the conditons of unity among the democratic and patriotic forces. The machinations of the American-NATO imperialist circles around Cyprus can be successfully confronted. These circles do not abandon their hopes of tying Cyprus to the NATO orbit and of turning the island into this aggressive bloc's unsinkable aircraft carrier.

One of the latest examples of such machinations has been the intervention into the preelection campaign by the NATO administration which opposes the AKEL-DIKO cooperation. The actions of NATO circles are directed against the general foreign policy of these parties which aim at safeguarding the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, at ridding the republic from foreign interventions and at implementing a nonaligned foreign policy.

VAYNO LEADS CPSU DELEGATION TO FINLAND FOR TALKS

PM041355 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Feb 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Arrival of CPSU Delegation"]

[Text] Helsinki, 2 Feb -- A delegation of CPSU party workers headed by K.G. Vayno, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee, arrived in Finland yesterday at the invitation of the Finnish Communist Party [SKP] Central Committee. The delegation was greeted by V. Pessi, honorary chairman of the SKP; T. Sinisalo, member of the SKP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the SKP Central Committee Foreign Affairs Commission; and other comrades.

COMMISSION FINDS BEGIN RESPONSIBLE FOR MASSACRE

LD081258 Moscow TASS in English 1217 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] Beirut February 8 TASS -- According to reports from Israel, a special commission that investigated the circumstances of the mass murder in the Sabra and Shatila Palestinian camps in West Beirut has completed its final report.

The commission's conclusions contain the admission that responsibility for the massacre in the Palestinian refugee camps is borne by Israel's Prime Minister Begin, Defense Minister Sharon and other high-placed officials and officers. The commission concludes that Sharon should resign.

As is known, the investigation, which was organised in Israel with the aim of blunting the widespread indignation at the heinous crimes in Sabra and Shatila, brought to light facts clearly showing that Begin and his closest associates knew in advance about the planned massacre of peaceful Palestinians -- women, old people and children, and are parties to these crimes that can be compared with the most terrible crimes perpetrated by Hitler's fascists.

U.S. Reaction Noted

LD091118 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 9 Feb 83

[Text] According to reports from Washington, President Reagan's reaction to the report of the Kahan Commission has been extraordinarily restrained. This is a special commission set up by the Israeli Government under resolute public pressure to investigate the mass killings in the Palestinian camps at Sabra and Shatilan in West Beirut. Following many months of procrastination it was compelled all the same to admit the incontrovertible truth that Prime Minister Begin and his closest retinue not only knew before hand about the reprisals that were in the offing, but also sanctioned them. The commission was even forced to conclude that Sharon should resign.

Representatives of the American Administration are now at pains to pretend that all this is a purely internal Israeli affair, although it is known that Sharon had discussed the forthcoming operations in Sabra and Shatila with Ambassador Draper, a White House representative. Therefore, for all intents and purposes, Washington gave its Israeli allies its blessings as far as this mass murder is concerned.

MOSCOW VIEWS STALEMATED ISRAELI-LEBANESE TALKS

LD082122 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Commentary by Andrey Nikolayev: "The Lebanese-Israeli-American Negotiations Are Marking Time"]

[Text] Lebanese-Israeli-American negotiations have been taking place twice a week for more than a month now, in Lebanon and Israel. Representatives from Lebanon, the United States and Israel have met about 10 times, and several specialized subcommittees have been set up to deal with certain issues, but the negotiations have made no progress to date. Observers agree that the parties concerned have failed to make progress in tackling the core of the issue on the agenda. Moreover, the reasons for this phenomena are quite clear.

As far as the Lebanese side is concerned, it is trying first and foremost to regain the sovereignty of its country, in the belief that the main issue is that of the complete and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanese territory.

It must be pointed out that Beirut's attitude is based not only on the legitimate rights of an independent state that has been exposed to the aggression of the Israeli invaders, but also on the many resolutions of the UN General Assembly and the UN Security Council. This attitude enjoys the vast support of the Arab countries and countries of the socialist community, and of the majority of the members of the international community.

Israel's aim, on the other hand, is to put off for the longest possible period the withdrawal of its forces from Lebanon, together with taking advantage of the occupation of part of this state's territory for the purpose of building a bridgehead that is aimed at Syria, a state that is constantly struggling for the removal of the aftermath of Israeli aggression and for the realization of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. Lastly, its aim is also to sign an agreement with Lebanon, which is bound to open Lebanon's borders for vast Israeli infiltration into this country. To sum up, Israel wants to repeat what it has done to Egypt within the framework of the Camp David deal by isolating it from the Arab world and turning it into a partner of Israel and the United States.

Tel Aviv's U.S. protector and partner in strategic cooperation supports Israel in general but, as the course of the American-Lebanese-Israeli negotiations has shown, it also adheres to its own aims. Its main aim is to win -- in the person of Lebanon and in return for peace assurances -- an advocate for the so-called Reagan plan. In other words it wants to compel Lebanon to capitulate politically so that Lebanon will abandon the demands contained in the Fes statement, in particular the demand that Israel unconditionally withdraw from all the territories occupied since 1967, especially Arab Jerusalem, and the demand that the Palestinians' legitimate rights be realized with regard to self-determination and setting up their independent state. Furthermore, Washington is trying to consolidate the presence of U.S. forces on Lebanese territory even behind the cover of the Multinational Forces, so that the Pentagon could become a guaranteed bridgehead for the units of the Rapid Deployment Force and so as to control in full this strategic area. The constant presence of the U.S. forces in Sinai, in accordance with the Camp David deal, shows that such probabilities do exist.

All this illustrates the fact that Lebanon's stance on one, hand and that of Israel and the United States on the other hand, are in complete contradiction. It is quite clear that Lebanon, the small wounded child dripping with blood whose towns and villages have become ruined, is now experiencing considerable difficulties. The tripartite negotiations are taking place amid explosions in the streets of Lebanese towns caused by the agents of Israel. It is these same agents who are fanning the flames of sectarian disturbances in Lebanon. The invading forces are constantly engaged in disciplinary actions against the Lebanese patriots and their Palestinian friends. But despite all this, Lebanon does not change its patriotic and heroic stand. This is the only way that leads to true independence and toward removing the consequences of the Israeli aggression. In its struggle, Lebanon enjoys the support of the Arab world, of which it is a part.

REAGAN CRITICISM OF ISRAEL 'VERBAL ACROBATICS'

LD082004 Moscow TASS in English 1640 GMT 8 Feb 83

["Washington's Ambiguous Policy" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 8 TASS -- TASS commentator Grigoriy Vasilyev writes:

Addressing local T.V. anchors in the White House, President Reagan said that Tel Aviv was unnecessarily delaying the withdrawal of its troops from Lebanese territory. The presidential remark was immediately characterised by commentators as "sharp public criticism" of Israel, and the allegation of "growing tension in U.S.-Israel relations" has been given currency anew.

Meanwhile, it is perfectly obvious that what we have here is again nothing more than "public" criticism, in other words, another U.S. attempt to use verbal acrobatics and political demagogy to mislead Arab public opinion. It is likewise clear that these critical remarks, just as in the past, will not be followed up with any practical measures to curb the flagrant Israeli aggressors. This was confirmed, in particular, by an NBC correspondent in his report from the White House.

According to him, next week the White House will again send Philip Habib to the Middle East, but he will not be empowered to threaten Israel with the suspension of U.S. military and economic aid.

There can be no doubt that the United States has sufficient leverage to pressure Israel but does not want to do so because, when all is said and done, the aims of U.S. imperialism and the Israeli Zionist leaders on the Middle East coincide. They include, first and foremost, the desire to subordinate the peoples and states of the region to U.S.-Israeli diktat, to plunder their resources and to turn a number of areas in the Middle East into beachheads for international banditry and aggression.

Tel Aviv regards the constant growth of U.S. comprehensive aid, which has reached the astronomic figure of 2.6 billion dollars during the current fiscal year, as encouragement to new acts of lawlessness and to continued territorial expansion. Small wonder that Israel is not even thinking of renouncing its policy of "settling" the west bank of the Jordan River and the Gaza Strip and continues to build ever new paramilitary communities in those areas. The Israeli aggressors are trying to gain a foothold in Lebanon in every way, actively looking for quislings in the south of the country and setting up "rural leagues" after the fashion of puppet leagues in the West Bank.

The joint provocative actions of the Israeli militarists and their U.S. backers continue to [words indistinct] persistent tension in the Middle East and remain the chief obstacle to the establishment of a lasting and just peace in that region.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA ASSAILS U.S. LEBANON STANCE

PM081401 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Jan 83 Second Edition p 3

[TASS commentator G. Kuvaldin article: "On a False Pretext"]

[Text] U.S. State Department representatives speaking in Washington have expressed "exceptional anxiety" at the slow progress of the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations.

The American Administration's feigned "anxiety" in connection with the development of the situation regarding Lebanon is due to wholly understandable motives organically connected with the general aims of Washington's Near East policy. In supporting Tel Aviv in every possible way by military, economic, political and other means, the United States is seeking at the present moment to extract maximum benefits from the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. In reality it is a question of creating American bases on Lebanese soil on the pretext of participating in the so-called Multinational Forces and thrusting a long-term American military presence on that country. In order to achieve this aim Washington is seeking above all to replace the legitimate demand for the Israeli aggressors' immediate and unconditional withdrawal from Lebanese territory, on which the Lebanese side is firmly insisting, with a demagogic slogan for the withdrawal of "all foreign forces" from Lebanon.

It is no accident therefore that U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger stated in an interview published in the Cairo newspaper AL-AHRAM on 26 January that "the Reagan administration is trying to achieve the completion of the first phase of the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon.

It is obvious that, by holding forth about "foreign forces" Washington is without any justification whatsoever placing the Israeli interventionist forces, the Syrian contingent of the inter-Arab peacekeeping force in Lebanon, and the Palestinian formations on the same footing. The American Administration apparently intends to close its eyes to the well-known fact that Israel carried out barbarous, unprovoked aggression against sovereign Lebanon in breach of the basic norms of international law, whereas the Syrians and Palestinians are in that Arab country in conformity with Arab League decisions and agreements with the Lebanese authorities.

Another striking circumstance is that Washington's stance, which is not averse to presenting itself as a "peacemaker" in the Near East, is manifestly at variance with UN Security Council Resolution 509, which contains a clear and precise demand that "Israel immediately and unconditionally withdraw its Armed Forces to the internationally recognized borders of Lebanon."

All this reaffirms the fact that the United States, which in reality is the accomplice of Israeli aggression, together with the ruling Zionist clique in Tel Aviv bears the whole responsibility for the crimes against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and the Israeli invaders' continuing occupation of Lebanese soil.

INCREASED U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IN LEBANON NOTED

LD081315 Moscow World Service in English 1200 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] President Reagan has voiced intentions to increase the size of the American Army contingent in Lebanon on the pretext that Israel is delaying the withdrawal of its troops from there. The Arab world considers the statement of confirmation of Washington's desire to step up its military presence in the region.

DEMCHENKO DISCUSSES ISRAELI DESIGNS ON SYRIA

PM082110 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Feb 83 First Edition p 4

[P. Demchenko article: "Near East Realities: New Threats of Aggressive Sorties Against Arab Countries"]

[Text] The smell of gunpowder from the Near East is growing stronger again, and political observers are asking whether a major new military flareup is impending there. Are the Israeli threats against Syria not a prelude to a strike against that country?

A government statement on this has been published in Damascus and a special message has been sent to the UN secretary general and Security Council. The Syrian leadership's anxiety is completely justified since it stems from an assessment of the overall situation in the Near East and Israel's concrete military preparations.

The situation is not simply alarming -- it is perhaps more complex and confused than at any previous time in recent years. It is well known that after World War II this region became the arena for the world's most protracted conflict and constant tension. Five major conflicts followed each other over a third of a century there. And in the course of each war the Israeli leadership strove to gain territorial acquisitions and political advantages at the Arab's expense.

And now Tel Aviv is again striving to derive the maximum from its attack on Lebanon and its occupation of the southern and central parts of that country. The most striking thing is the attempt to extend the occupation indefinitely and to keep certain Lebanese regions completely under their control by creating military posts and so-called early warning stations there. By dragging out the occupation Tel Aviv wants to have, first, a means of pressure in the course of the Lebanese-Israeli talks which have begun and, second, a bridgehead for a possible strike against Syria.

The "Multinational Forces" of which American Marines form the nucleus (these forces also include French and Italian units and have also recently been joined by a British subunit) are stationed in the Beirut area and do not prevent the Israelis holding sway in the territory they have seized. All the indications are that these forces have different tasks. As THE NEW YORK TIMES acknowledged recently, they now serve as a cover behind which rightist Lebanese groupings, primarily the Christian militia, are attempting to disarm the detachments of patriotic organizations -- the very ones that resisted the Israeli invasion together with the Palestinians.

In other words, these forces are helping -- from another angle as it were -- to fulfill the same task that Tel Aviv has mapped out: ensuring the dominance of rightist pro-western groupings in Lebanon. The presence of the patriotic movement in the country and Beirut's political, economic and financial links with the Arab world are preventing the Lebanese big and comprador bourgeoisie from concluding an overt conspirary with Washington and a separate deal with Israel. It is this obstacle that it now wants to destroy in order to free the hands of the collaborationists.

But it is not just a question of Lebanon. The stakes are much higher. The main objective of the attack on that country in June last year was proclaimed by Tel Aviv to be the destruction of the PLO, whose main leadership centers and military formations headed by Y. 'Arafat have been housed on Lebanese territory in recent years. It was they who, together with detachments of Lebanese patriotic forces, offered stubborn resistance to the invader, defended Beirut for almost 80 days and then, undefeated, were evacuated to other Arab countries in full order [v polnom poryadke] and with their weapons.

It is impossible not to see, of course, that the war was a severe test for the PLO: Its leadership and combat detachments are now futher away than previously from the homeland and have been dispersed among various countries in the Arab world whose governments have far from identical attitudes toward them. The families of many fighters have remained in Lebanon, where their homes have been destroyed. The occupationists have turned several Palestinian refugee settlements into concentration camps. But on the whole the PLO has proved its viability and has held out [vystoyala], confirming its role as the real leader of the struggle for the Palestinian people's political rights. The slogan calling for the creation of an independent Palestinian state has not been taken off the agenda, either. Nor can this be done, since it is impossible to destroy a 4 million-strong people and their natural aspiration for freedom and independence. A process of formulating new tactics and forms and methods of struggle most acceptable in the present situation is currently going on in the PLO.

For all the tragic nature of the Lebanon events, they have confirmed the fact that it is impossible to get near to [priytik] peace in the Near East without granting the Palestinians political rights. And yet another conclusion can be drawn: The Palestinian problem cannot be solved by force by imposing someone else's will on the people. Nevertheless, Israel is continuing to gamble mainly on force. Having failed to crush the PLO in the course of military operations, the aggressor has now unleashed a campaign of savage terror and intimidation against Palestinians both on occupied Lebanese territory and in the territories seized back in 1967 -- the West Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza sector.

According to M. Vilner, general secretary of the Israeli Communist Party Central Committee, the Israeli big bourgeoisie and the country's Zionist circles are thereby attempting to "definitively" solve the problem of the Palestinians, to drive them from their native land and create a "greater Israel." This is precisely the objective of the recently published program for Jews to settle Palestinian lands and of the construction of a further 8 militarized settlements in addition to the 139 already in existence. Thus, as Syrian President H. al-Asad puts it, Israel is implementing "creeping colonization."

The Israeli brigandage in Lebanon, the deliberate prolongation of the occupation of the country, the tyranny practiced toward the Palestinians and also the threats to Syria have sparked a storm of indignation in the Arab countries while at the same time severely hitting the prestige of the United States, which has never before been so directly and actively involved in Near East affairs. American units form part of "Multinational Forces" not only in Lebanon but also in Sinai; American diplomats are participating in the Lebanese-Israeli talks and performing a "mediating mission" between the Israelis and the Arabs; and U.S. President R. Reagan has advanced his own "Near East settlement" plan as an extension of Camp David.

In this situation Washington would like to somehow distance its policy from the aggressive Israeli course in the Arabs' eyes. For what is at issue is control of Arab oil and a desire to consolidate positions on Arab bridgeheads. For example, the U.S. Administration has stated that it opposes the creation of Israeli settlements on the occupied territories and so forth.

However, there is a truly glaring gulf between Washington's assurances and what is in fact happening. It is well known that the U.S. and Israeli positions on the Palestinian question virtually coincide; they are doing everything possible, albeit by different means, to ensure that an independent Palestinian state is never created.

Or take yet another fact. Last spring American official spokesmen and the press repeatedly reported U.S. determination to prevent a major Israeli invasion of Lebanon, and then of West Beirut. The result of this is well known -- the greatest carnage in the Near East.

What can possibly be the worth of American assurances that the United States is "restraining" Israel from attacking Syria? Obviously "zero." Even those admirers of America who were claiming quite recently that the key to a Near East settlement lies in Washington's hands are ceasing to trust it.

An article which appeared in the Cairo newspaper AL-AKHBAR, which quite recently was following Washington's line, is curious in this respect. It has now blamed the United States for the absence of peace in the Near East. It should be understood, the newspaper writes, that Tel Aviv "is fighting with an American sword and living on American money."

Fair comment. This year alone Washington will be presenting Tel Aviv with weapons and credits worth more than $2.5 billion. The entire course of events in the Near East testifies that the United States is gambling on the Israeli military, which it needs both to exert constant pressure on the Arabs and to implement its strategic anti-Soviet plans in the region. This is precisely why Israel has been provided with enormous supplies of arms and credits and, in the final analysis, with political cover for any adventures.

According to THE NEW YORK TIMES, Washington representatives would be suited by a "U.S. role as guarantor of the Arab's security against Israel and Israel's security against the Arabs." This is what it is all about: a role of self-appointed arbiter and ruler playing with the peoples' fates. What is this if not neocolonialism in its most overt form!

As for Israel, it, as is known, needs no defense in carrying out its role as gendarme with respect to neighboring countries. It can be seen in this capacity now, threatening Syria. As already reported, the pretext for the anti-Syrian campaign was Syria's measures to strengthen anti-aircraft defense and the installation of new anti-aircraft missile complexes. These weapons are purely defensive in nature and can only be used in the event of an enemy air attack.

However, Israel saw a "danger" in this fact. Not, of course, a danger to its own population or the existence of its state. No, it is a matter of something completely different. Begin, Sharon and their ilk want to keep the neighboring Arab countries in fear of the Israeli military machine. Air raids and subversion against Syria have been carried out on more than one occasion.

So that country has every reason to display concern for its defense. The new Syrian missiles are a manifest obstacle to the impunity of Israeli brigandage. This is why such a fuss has been made about them.

The peoples are vigiliantly following the development of the situation in this region and warning the Tel Aviv hawks and their patrons against new adventures. It is clear to everybody that an anti-Syrian sortie by Israel would lead only to the broadening of the zone of confrontation in the Near East with all the ensuring consequences, and such a turn of events cannot fail to heighten even further the already acute tension in the world.

In the interests of peace it is much more sensible to have recourse to joint collective actions to normalize the situation, which is what the Soviet Union proposes. Only actions of this kind constitute an obstacle to adventurism and a realistic way to ensure the legitimate rights and security of all the peoples of this long-suffering part of the planet.

APN OBSERVER VIEWS GULF WAR, MIDDLE EAST

LD081909 Kuwait KUNA in English 1800 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow Feb 8 (KUNA) -- The Iran-Iraq war is absolutely illogical if it is approached from the angle of interests of the two warring nations, a senior Soviet journalist said Tuesday.

In an exclusive interview with KUNA, political observer of the NOVOSTI [APN] news agency Georgiy Savin said the Iraqi and Iranian peoples have no interest in this war from which only the colonial powers are benefitting by distracting Iraq and Iran from countering American and Israel designs in the region.

Savin stressed that the Soviet Union's attitude toward this war, as endorsed by the Central Committee of the Communist Party in 1982, has made it clear the the Gulf war was entirely unnecessary.

"The imperialist powers have managed to create a rift between Arab countries due to this conflict and such disputes will surely adversely affect Arab countries due solidarity [as received] in the face of the Zionist aggression," he said.

On mediation efforts to end the war, Savin said the Soviet Union though, did not play a key role in mediation initiatives, it has always been sympathetic to and understanding of these good-offices. [sentence as received]

"The Soviet Union which wishes a peaceful settlement for that conflict, maintains a completely neutral stand to keep its friendship with the two sides of the conflict," he added.

Questioned on his country's stand on the Lebanese-Israeli withdrawal negotiations, Savin underlined the principled attitude of Lebanon which despite pressures and internal problems insisted on the Israeli pullout and refused to succumb to "the Israeli military blackmail."

He affirmed that the Soviet Union appreciates the legitimacy of the Lebanese demands especially that Israel is trying to prolong its military presence in Lebanon to eliminate Lebanon from the Arab world.

On the Middle East comprehensive settlement, Savin noted that the Soviet Union, as a permament member of the Security Council, has always supported the Arab cause and will continue to do so.

He explained that Israel, backed by the United States, is trying to consolidate its positions in Lebanon which might serve as staging points to launch attacks on Arab countries, particularly Syria.

"The mounting Zionist aggressive trend is only a direct outcome of the treacherous Camp David accords," he added.

The Camp David accords were signed in 1978 between the U.S., Egypt and Israel calling for a state of peace between Israel and Egypt and for talks over granting the Palestinians self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza.

The Soviet Union does not only reject the U.S. Middle East peace plan "which seeks to buttress the Israeli occupation of Arab territories" but also proposes an international plan for a peaceful settlement of the Middle East crisis, he affirmed. In the meantime, Savin noted that the Arab peace plan of the Fes summit matches the Soviet stand on the Middle East situation.

U.S. MILITARY STRATEGY IN MIDDLE EAST REVIEWED

PM041501 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Jan 83 Second Edition p 3

[Military-political review by V. Vinogradov: "In the Pentagon's Sights"]

[Text] After a prolonged standstill, questions of procedure have been settled at the Lebanese-Israeli talks taking place under U.S. patronage. The sides have accepted the agenda imposed by the U.S. delegation. Tel Aviv and some people in the West are rubbing their hands in satisfaction. "Reaching an agreement on the agenda," the London newspaper THE OBSERVER writes, for instance, "marks the real beginning of Israel's peace talks with a second Arab country."

But those who are delighted by the start of these talks are silent over the fact that Lebanon has been obliged to embark on these talks under dual U.S.-Israeli pressure. After all, the vitally important question for Beirut of the withdrawal of the Israeli occupying troops has been relegated to the bottom of the list and will be examined "in the context of the evacuation of all foreign armed forces." It is primarily questions relating to "safeguarding the security" of Israel and "ending the state of war" that will be examined.

There is a desire on the part of the "strategic allies" -- the United States and Israel -- to turn the military fruit of the Israeli aggression against Lebanon into political gains. They are trying to give new impetus to the deadlocked process whose foundation was laid back at Camp David; in other words, to continue the policy of replacing an all-embracing and just settlement in the Near East with separate deals advantageous primarily to Washington and Tel Aviv.

And to strive to ensure that events develop strictly according to the scenario worked out in the White House, the United States intends to make increasingly active use of a strong Israel as a "trump card" in the game it has launched in the Near East. It is scarcely possible to regard as a fortuitous coincidence the fact that it is precisely now -- when Lebanon has literally "had its arm twisted" through the imposition of the U.S. agenda at the talks -- that the United States has announced that it is giving Israel an unprecedented sum -- $2.6 billion -- as military-economic aid. And Y. Navon, the Zionist state's president, who is in Washington on a visit, has personally recieved assurances from President R. Reagan that the United States' "unshakable commitments" to safeguard Israel's "security" will always come first for any U.S. Administration. That means that a very broad stream of modern miltiary equipment from the Pentagon's arsenals will continue to be put at the Israeli military's disposal.

In Lebanon itself, Israel, using the all-around support of the United States, is continuing to strengthen its positions, mainly in the occupied part of the Al-Biqa' Valley. In the past few days the interventionists have deployed missile launches there.

Additional armored and infantry units and self-propelled artillery are being transferred to the same region. The installation of a powerful radar station is being completed on Al-Baruk mountain in central Lebanon. It will enable the Israeli agressors to carry out surveillance of a vast territory from Iraq to the Sinai Peninsula.

The construction of military establishments, which the interventionists are intensively undertaking on Lebanese territory, is eloquent evidence of Tel Aviv's desire to entrench itself on the occupied territory for a long time. This also accords with U.S. interests. Israel's occupation of part of Lebanon has become a convenient pretext for the United States to send its Marines from the Rapid Deployment Forces to that Arab country. Here, while it was asserted initially that their stay there was temporary, there is now talk of doubling the U.S. contingent in Lebanon and setting no duration for its stay there.

Seeking to establish its domination in this part of the world, the United States wants to place under its control not only the development of events but also the natural resources there. Washington's actions in the Near and Middle East and in the Persian Gulf zone, where there are enormous oil deposits, are in this respect the best illustration of U.S. imperialism's hegemonist aspirations. Having armed Israel to the teeth and obtained bridgeheads for the Rapid Deployment Forces in Sinai and Lebanon, the United States has announced the creation of a new military command -- the Central Command (Centcom) -- which started to operate officially on 1 January 1983. Its sphere of operation includes 19 (!) Asian and African countries -- Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Bahrain, the United Arab Emigrates, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Oman, the Yemen Arab Republic, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Egypt, Sudan, Jordan, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Somalia and Kenya.

The United States, discarding any camouflage, is thus taking "under the wing" of the Pentagon an enormous region thousands of miles from U.S. shores. "While maintaining readiness for war the command will be a force of peace," General J. Vessey, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, stated pompously, addressing the Centcom opening ceremony. However, the general used the word "peace" as a blind. What peace can there be if the Rapid Deployment Forces, specially created by Washington for armed intervention into other states, are targeted against this vast region: The same Rapid Deployment Forces which, U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger said, "are automatically oriented toward the oilfields" of the Near East and Persian Gulf.

The U.S. press reports that with the creation of the Central Command General R. Kingston, who heads it, acquires all the Rapid Deployment Forces, whose numerical strength can be increased to almost 4 million servicemen. But initially the general has received 11 squadrons of tactical aircraft, formations of the 18th Paratroop Corps including the 82d Airborne Division and the 101st Air Assault Division, 3 operational naval formations headed by aircraft carriers, a division of Marines and other units. Centcom also acquires a broad network of U.S. military bases already existing in the region or under construction. They include the largest U.S. naval and air base in the Indian Ocean, on the island of Diego Garcia, and also military establishments in Somalia, Kenya, Oman, Egypt and Pakistan. In addition, the possibility is already being studied of creating an advance-based headquarters for Centcom, which is located at MacDill Air Base (Florida), actually in one of the countries of the region -- Egypt or Pakistan.

The Rapid Deployment Forces' orientation toward the Near East and Persian Gulf region is confirmed by many facts. Quite recently, on the eve of the announcement of the creation of Centcom, the Rapid Deployment Forces launched exercises in Oman and Somalia under the codename "Jade Tiger." Over 2,500 U.S. Marines and U.S. aircraft rehearsed operations for landing an assault force in the littoral states of the northwest part of the Indian Ocean. To judge by reports which have appeared in the press, the number of these militarist shows will increase in the future.

The new command's duties include not only planning in advance possible invasions of the countries of the region but also organizing exercises there during which the Rapid Deployment Force personnel will be able to gain experience of conducting combat operations under local -- highly specific -- conditions. Thus, it has already been announced that the next maneuvers, to be held in Egypt and Sudan, have been planned for the summer of 1983.

The facts attest that the Central Command has been created by the United States to carry out gendarme functions, to support regimes which suit Washington and to interfere actively in the internal affairs of the sovereign states of this vast region. And it is not hard to predict the dangerous consequences with which this is fraught. After all, there are already enough acute conflicts in this zone. There is the imperialist interference in the affairs of democratic Afghanistan. There is the senseless fratricidal war which has lasted over 2 years now between Iran and Iraq. There are Somalia's hostile actions against Ethiopia. And finally there is Israel's aggressive policy against its Arab neighbors, making the situation in the Near East extremely tense. All these conflicts themselves present a grave threat to the region but they could become even more dangerous when the direct participation in them of U.S. servicemen from the Rapid Deployment Force becomes possible.

And that this dangerous prospect is a real one is clear from a secret Pentagon plan, extracts from which have reached the U.S. newspapers. This document states in particular that the Persian Gulf zone is of such important significance that preparations must be made to introduce U.S. forces there even "if it seems that only a threat to the safe access to oil in this region has been created, without there having been a direct incursion. Here there is no need to wait for an invitation from our allies among the oil-extracting countries." What is this if not a clear example of the imperial thinking of the times of colonial piracy!

In building up militarist activeness in the Near and Middle East and Persian Gulf zone, the U.S. leaders are unstinting in references to some "Soviet military threat" which must allegedly be resisted. This trick is far from new. Back in 1981 the CPSU Central Committee report to the 26th party congress pointed out that the Washington strategists, in an attempt to justify their military preparations, were disseminating the story of the "Soviet threat" to the oil resources of the Near and Middle East or oil transport routes. A deliberately lying story, for its authors are well aware that the USSR has no intention of encroaching on either the former or the latter. And it is absurd in general to think that Western oil interests can be "defended" by turning this region into a powder keg.

No, the Soviet Union has completely different views of how peace can really be safeguarded in the Persian Gulf region and the approaches to it. Instead of massing ever new naval and air armadas, troops and armaments here, the Soviet Union has suggested lifting the threat of war here by concluding an international agreement.

However, Washington has disregarded this appeal. The United States has refused to resume the Soviet-U.S. talks on the Indian Ocean and is sabotaging the well-known UN proposals for turning this ocean into a peace zone. And now a special command -- Centcom -- has been created.

The Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries reaffirmed their pirncipled and consistent position on these issues at the Warsaw Pact states' Political Consultative Committee conference in Prague. They advocated proceeding along the path of clearing the Near and Middle East and Southwest Asia of the mines of potential conflicts and turning this vast region into a zone of peace and tranquillity. The Warsaw Pact states have no intention of expanding the sphere of operation of their alliance. The USSR and the other socialist countires urge the NATO states too to abandon the extension of their bloc's zone of operation to any parts of the world, particularly the Persian Gulf.

Advocating constructive dialogue on acute issues of the present day, including problems relating to the Near and Middle East and the Persian Gulf, the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries propose proceeding along the path of talks, not confrontation.

PLO OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON U.S. CENTRAL COMMAND

LD090444 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2015 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] Damascus, 8 Feb (TASS) -- Correspondent D. Zelenin reports: The creation of the so-called U.S. military Central Command (Centcom) is a fresh step in Washington's adventuristic policy, aimed at scaring the peoples with its military might and interfering in their internal affairs. The very idea of the formation of such a subunit of the American military in an unquiet region of the world blatantly contradicts the norms of international life. This was stated by A.M. Abu Mayzar, member of the Executive Committee of the PLO, in an interview with the TASS correspondent.

Centcom, A.M. Abu Mayzar said, constitutes a direct threat to the independence, sovereignty and national security of the countries and peoples of the region embraced by its sphere of activity. The creation of Centcom, at whose disposal the "Rapid Deployment Force" has been placed, is closely linked with the aggressive Washington - Tel Aviv alliance, whose aim is to impose capitulatory deals on the Arabs.

In the countries of the Near East, A.M. Abu Mayzar said, Centcom is associated with Israel's aggressive intentions against Syria and the White House's attempts to force Lebanon to sign a capitulatory "peace treaty" with Israel and to draw Jordan into the Camp David process.

In this connection the member of the PLO Executive Committee stressed that all units of the Palestine resistance and all countries belonging to the national steadfastness and confrontation front will most resolutely oppose the plans of the American strategists.

IRANIAN GEOLOGICAL DELEGATION VISITS USSR

NC081427 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] A delegation of Iranian experts headed by Mr Akbar Nowgol-Sadat, deputy director of the Iranian geological service, visited the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet Tekhnoeksport organization. During their stay in the Soviet Union, the members of the Iranian delegation were acquainted with methods of mines exploration in the various Soviet republics. For this reason they visited Georgia, Azerbaijan and Tadzhikstan, and studied the activities of the mines exploration institutes in Tbilisi, Baku and Dushanbe. They visited the geological museum in Moscow as well as sites and monuments in these cities.

Following the Iranian delegation's return to Moscow from its trip to the country, talks were held between the Iranian delegation and representatives of Tekhnoeksport. During the talks a protocol was signed in which results of Soviet-Iranian coopera ion in mines exploration were assessed.

Tekhnoeksport has assisted the Iranian geological service for 7 years in (?mines exploration) in the Anarak region in Esfahan Province. During the period of cooperation 12 mineralogical reports were compiled in addition to plans and the results of activities related to mines exploration. Tekhnoeksport assists both the Iranian geological service and the national Iranian steel company in mines exploration.

During the 16-year period of Soviet-Iranian technical cooperation in mines exploration, Soviet and Iranian experts have found several areas in Iran that have potential for providing all types of ores needed by the Esfahan steel mill.

Iran is a country with rich mineral resources. But a large part of this subterranean wealth has not been studied as extensively as necessary. With the assistance of a group of Soviet experts, a network of organizations for mines exploration and chemical laboratories has been set up in the vicinity of the Iranian steel company and national cadres, consisting of Iranian experts in various fields, have been trained. These experts will be able to work independently in the future.

The Iranian delegation's visit to the Soviet Union can be characterized as yet another sign of mutually beneficial cooperation between the two neighbors.

MOSCOW REVEALS U.S. 'SUBVERSIVE ACTS' IN IRAN

NC041354 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The Indian daily PATRIOT carries an article by its editor, Mishra, on the escalation of subversive acts by the U.S. CIA against independent Asian countries, including the Islamic Republic of Iran. Mishra points out in his article that Washington is using this agency, which has 18,000 permanent employees and thousands of hirelings in various countries, to overthrow those governments the independent policies of which are not favored by the White House.

How are these activities carried out? A CIA employee, [name indistinct], after his resignation published a book entitled House of Cards on U.S. defeats in the Near East. In this book he clearly explains how the CIA overthrew Iran's legitimate government headed by the late Dr Mohammad Mosaddeq who had risen in opposition to the supremacy of U.S. monopolies in Iran. At that time the U.S. Administration returned and reinstated Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi, Washington's puppet who had fled abroad to save himself from the people's rage.

U.S. supremacy and diktat which relied on its puppet -- the monarchy -- continued for a quarter of a century until the 11 February revolution 4 years ago which overthrew the monrachy and ended foreign supremacy. Of course, U.S. monopolies were the ones that suffered most from the revolution; therefore, it is not surprising to see Washington now preparing so hastily and heatedly to carry out a new counterrevolutionary coup in Iran.

THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE has flagrantly written that the CIA is spending millions of dollars to prepare arms and to equip Iranian paramilitary groups opposed to the present regime. The said magazine then writes: Together with these steps, the CIA is paying for the expenditures of forces which have sought refuge in France and Egypt and is uniting them, and it has also set up a clandestine transmitter on Iranian soil.

The CIA successfully recruits some West-stricken Iranian dignitaries who have succeeded in coming close to the present leadership to serve U.S. imperialism. Such dignitaries have always been alien to the interests of Iranian workers. For example, former foreign minister and director of the Islamic Republic's Voice and Vision, Sadeq Qotbzadeh, was involved in executing the CIA's orders. This went on for a long time until it was revealed.

The publication of a photocopy of a $1 million check given to Qotbzadeh by his U.S. masters is enough to clarify to us how generous these masters were in paying for his treason. The CIA was also not stingy when it came to paying for the treacherous services rendered by Hushang Amir-Entezam, deputy prime minister in Engineer Bazargan's cabinet, by Yazdi, former foreign minister, and by other West-stricken dignitaries who had occupied high-ranking offices in the Islamic Republic of Iran and who were later uncovered.

The PATRIOT's editor, Mishra, refers to the CIA's subversions in Iran and in other independent Asian countries and states that these activities escalate in parallel with the intensification of the U.S. military presence in the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf, the construction of U.S. military bases in these areas, the establishment of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force and the formation of the U.S. Central Command, which includes the Islamic Republic of Iran in its sphere of activities.

The people of Iran will soon mark the 4th anniversary of their anti-imperialist and antimonarchical revolution. Nevertheless, so far U.S. leadership circles have not wanted to accept their defeat in Iran and to stop their policy of occupation in your country. The escalation of the CIA's subversive activities and other aggressive U.S. attempts, which are aimed at implementing a new counterrevolutionary coup in Iran, and of other U.S. plundering objectives in your country especially point to this fact.

MOSCOW TV REPORTS ISMAT AS-SADAT TRIAL IN EGYPT

LD082354 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 6 Feb 83

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Aleksandr Bovin]

[Text] [Bovin] Here is a report by Andrey Popov from Cairo.

[Begin Popov videotape] Quite recently, newspapers were always carrying photographs of the former People's Assembly member, Rashad 'Uthman. Much was written about serious misuse of state funds by the former minister of construction, 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman, who, by the way, is a relative of Anwar as-Sadat. Now there is a new trial. It promises to be most acute and noisy. In spite of the recommendation by the public prosecutor that the press refrain from printing material connected with Ismat as-Sadat until the end of the trial, much interesting information has appeared on the pages of newspapers and journals. Let us take a closer look at what it is all about. Let us see how and on what basis this former modest employee of one of the companies in Suez, who earned 70 Egyptian pounds a month, amassed a fortune of millions and millions of Egyptian pounds.

First of all, it should be said that Anwar as-Sadat, the president of Egypt, proclaimed an open door policy, which enabled the parasitic bourgeoisie to amass huge fortunes. Speculation, squandering, bribes -- all these became the norm in Egypt. In such conditions, a whole stratum of Egyptian society came into being, known to the people as the fat cats. One such cat was Ismat as-Sadat. He would stoop to anything, whether it was simple speculation and bribery, or threats and extortion. Buying from state enterprises goods in greatest demand at reduced prices, he sold them on the black market for three times as much. Enjoying the patronage of his all-powerful brother, Ismat as-Sadat took over the loading and unloading operations at the Port of Alexandria, one of the biggest ports in the Mediterranean. But of course he was not content with that. Enjoying monopoly rights for such operations, he took bribes from those who wanted to load or unload goods quickly.

In accordance with the economic doctrine of the former Egyptian president, so-called free zones were set up in the country — towns to which goods could be taken without paying duties. Ismat as-Sadat also made use of this loophole to take goods out of these towns, bypassing the customs barriers, and as a result, inflicting direct economic damage on the country's interests.

I am now standing at the door of one of the firms that belonged to Ismat as-Sadat. The office of the (?Tabas) firm is on 'Ali Pasha Street. Now the office is closed; the bank accounts are blocked; the activities of the firm have stopped. What was revealed about the activities of the firm during the trial? Through blackmail and threats, the staff of the firm headed by Ismat as-Sadat bought up expensive handmade carpets from small traders. To be fair, it should be said that these traders themselves mercilessly exploit the children of the poor, who for days on end make the most beautiful carpets and receive a miserable pittance for this arduous work. The firm paid the traders 50 pounds per square meter; Ismat as-Sadat himself sold the same carpets for 120 pounds per square meter. Ismat as-Sadat, with full justification, considered himself a manufacturer. He had several factories, at which child labor was frequently employed. The workers toiled in intolerable conditions, bringing profits and superprofits to the owner of the enterprises. In Egypt, Ismat as-Sadat purchased a large pool of trucks. He even owned oceangoing ships, though these were held in the name of his wife, a Greek. But it was not just transportation. Housing blocks in Cairo, Suez and other cities bring huge profits to their owners. Just imagine, a furnished apartment in a good district of the city can cost up to 1,000 Egyptian pounds a month. In order to pay such a sum of money, qualified Egyptian workers have to work the year round in a factory, and go without food and drink.

Ismat as-Sadat is now charged with trading on the black market, unofficial enrichment, introducing corruption into political life and subverting the country's economic interest. [Shots of As-Sadat in courtroom.] Ismat as-Sadat thinks that the case against him is not criminal, but political. Indeed, the whole thing is such a tangle that one cannot describe this trial in just one way. But what is beyond doubt is that this trial clearly demonstrates the evils of the internal economic policy of the former Egyptian leadership [end videotape]

[Bovin] The trial of Ismat as-Sadat continues. The other day the public prosecutor demanded the arrest and detention of his son and daughter. Recently, the Egyptian minister of justice demanded that the former minister of internal affairs, Isma'il, be deprived of his parliamentary immunity. In demanding that Isma'il be put on trial, the paper ASH-SHARQ stresses that on his personal instructions, political prisoners in Egyptian prisons were subjected to cruel torture and were mistreated. The paper accuses the former minister of falsifying the results of elections and referenda held in the country while As-Sadat was in power, of protecting a number of major rogues and criminals, of organizing judicial suppression of the Egyptian patriots on deliberately falsified and groundless charges. That is what was going on in Egypt!

CAIRO MAGAZINE'S ANTI-USSR ARTICLE CRITICIZED

LD072019 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 7 Feb 83

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program presented by Aleksandr Timoshkin]

[Text] The Cairo-based AL-MUSAWWAR has made an exciting discovery. The author of one of the articles published in this magazine found in the Soviet Union's policy in the Middle East a wish for endless continuation of war in the region. It would be possible to ignore such a folly except that this Cairo-based magazine, in another article published in the same issue, praised the United States which has no concern for the future of Egyptian policy. AL-MUSAWWAR wrote about the distinguishing feature of relations between Cairo and Washington. The clear aim of the article is to appease Washington, which is described by official Cairo as its loyal and trusted friend. Perhaps this the reason why AL-MUSAWWAR has made a mindless attempt -- regrettably not for the first time -- to blacken the character of Soviet policy in the Middle East, the main objective of which is the prevalence of truth and the establishment of lasting peace in the region.

We would like to remind the Cairo-based magazine that Soviet policy receives the greatest appreciation of most Arab countries, as was clearly indicated by the Fes summit resolutions.

PLO OFFICIAL DENIES RUMORS ON DIFFERENCES

LD082305 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 8 Feb 83

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program written by Aleksey Zlatorunskiy]

[Text] Certain information media, particularly the Western media, have recently been talking about a split in the Palestine resistance movement, deliberately distorting facts. To put an end to these provocative allegations which Israel and the United States have received with rejoicing, several Palestinian leaders have made special statements, one of which was the statement made to an AP correspondent by Khalil al-Wazir alias Abu Jihad, military commander [title as heard] of the PLO. Abu Jihad said: What is being said about differences, including differences within the PLO, is unfounded. Certain differences in points of view are merely a reflection of the democracy that exists within this Palestinian organization.

On the other hand, the PLO military commander said the Palestinian question cannot possibly be resolved in all its aspects except on the basis of recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. The United States must also recognize these rights. Abu Jihad said no matter how the question is resolved, we must have a Palestinian flag and a Palestinian identity, Palestinian ministers and a Palestinian army. Abu Jihad strongly criticized every attempt to hold talks on the Palestinian issue without the PLO, and said no one will be allowed to discuss ways of solving the Palestinian issue except through the PLO.

U.S. ENTRY INTO AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK VIEWED

LD090709 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2225 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] Washington, 9 Feb (TASS) -- Correspondent Nikolay Pakhomov report:

The Reagan administration is pursuing a policy aimed at the economic enslavement of the independent African states. This is the purpose of the order signed yesterday [8 February] by President R. Reagan on U.S. entry to the African Development Bank.

At the signing ceremony R. Reagan made large claims about Washington's "sincere desire" to "promote the development" of the African states and "help" them in solving economic problems. The falsity of such assertions become particularly clear against the background of the fact that these problems have been created and are being aggravated primarily through the fault of the United States and other Western countries.

The global foreign debt of the African countries now exceeds $60 billion. As a result of the artificially inflated rate of the dollar, it is becoming increasingly difficult for many African states to buy manufactured goods from the Western countries. The repayment of interest on previous loans is an enormous burden on them.

The by no means unselfish nature of the U.S. decision to join the African Development Bank is shown by documents issued by the White House explaining the move. They say frankly that participation in the bank "reflects growing U.S. economic and military interests in the important region" of Africa.

MAURITIUS OFFICIAL EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR SWAPO

LD031359 Moscow TASS in English 0940 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 3 TASS -- We fully and completely side with the national liberation movements. The point at issue are both the Palestine Liberation Organization, which we officially recognize at once, and, naturally, SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization],the sole legitimate representative of the Namibian people. A statement to this effect was made during the recent visit to Moscow by Prime Minister Aneerood Jugnauth of Mauritius in an interview with the newspaper "MOSCOW NEWS". The procrastination tactics employed by the five Western powers of the "contact group", which is hampering a Namibian settlement, he continued, pursues a double-pronged aim: On the one hand, to protract the granting of independence to Namibia and, on the other hand, to give direct assistance to the racist regime of the Republic of South Africa.

There are people, he continued, who are talking of human rights, but I, personally, do not understand, how can one simultaneously declare special, friendly relations with the Pretoria regime while closing eyes to the occupation of Namibia by the regime of the Republic of South Africa, the lack of rights of the African population in that country. [sentence as received]

Or take Angola. Now it is a free country and its government, which is accountable to its people, has the right to do what it considers to be proper and necessary for its country.

Then it is unreasonable to link the question of stay in Angola of Cuban military units with the question of Namibia's independence. Such an approach to Namibian settlement is a trap set not only against Angola, but also against the people of Namibia and the whole of free Africa.

As far as the Africa National Congress of South Africa [ANC-SA] is concerned, he pointed out, an attempt to deny that the ANC expresses the interests of the African majority in the Republic of South Africa, is an attempt to deny an obvious fact. Moveover, it would be tantamount to support for the criminal Pretoria regime.

The turning of Diego Garcia Island into a modern U.S. military base, A. Jugnauth continued, creates a threat to all peace-loving peoples, especially to millions of peoples in the countries of the Indian Ocean Basin.

Thus we are faced with two problems: of recovering that part of our territory seized by Britons from us, and of an effort for making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace, he stressed.

ANC'S NZO COMMENTS ON STRUGGLE AGAINST APARTHEID

LD051451 Moscow in Zulu to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Statement by Alfred Nzo, African National Congress Secretary General -- date, place not given -- live or recorded, delivered in English]

[Text] It is true that apartheid has no future. This is not just a statement of wishful thinking, particularly because the freedom fighters are bent on freeing the whole of South Africa. If we look carefully at what is going on inside the country it becomes clear that the racist regime is facing tremendous difficulties. The majority of the non-white oppressed have taken up arms in order to end this policy. Recently the liberation movement has grown by leaps and bounds. The liberation movement now includes people from different races from South Africa.

The efforts of our people are supported by the waves of attacks mounted by Umkonto Wesizwe. This is a militant wing of the ANC. All this has caused great confusion among the leaders of that country. Greater difficulties still await them in the future. The policy of apartheid has no future. This is evidenced by the Whites themselves in South Africa. The greater part of the Whites support the liberation movement. They consist of the youth; the white youth and students cooperate with black youth in demonstrations and campaigns against apartheid. The policy of apartheid has no future. The prominence of the liberation movement shows the shaky policies followed by the rulers here. This has caused many Whites to start thinking about the future.

We are aware that the racist rulers will take certain steps if only to help extend the short life of apartheid. This will be evidenced by the increased force and violence and the trampling of human rights. Such essays will not help.

EL SALVADOR 'PARTISANS' WOUND U.S SOLDIER

LD090034 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 8 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by Boris Kalyagin]

[Text] The Reagan administration is trying to obtain an increase in military and economic assistance to its henchmen in El Salvador. This assistance for 1984 is to amount to $205 million. That is $40 million more than in the current year. The Salvadoran military regime continues to be the main recipient of dollar injections in Central America. It is true that the latest allocations are still to be approved by the U.S. Congress.

To the inconvenience of the White House yet one more incident has occurred involving U.S. military instructors in El Salvador. One of these, Sergeant Stanley, was wounded when his helicopter was fired on by partisans. The U.S. Administration has said repeatedly that the U.S. servicemen in El Salvador do not take part in military actions. This time a State Department spokesman again said that the helicopter found itself in a firing zone by accident. However, this assertion was refuted by very competent persons, by members of the U.S. Embassy in El Salvador. [Camera shows military figures in a helicopter and soldiers in a forest.] They admitted that the helicopter, carrying the U.S. adviser, was carry out battle operations. Besides, two more U.S. officers took part in the battle against the fighters of the national liberation front. This story has shown once again what the assertions of the U.S. State Department are worth.

By the way, no one was surprised by this story. Prior to this, facts were quoted many times to the effect that the U.S. servicemen took part in actions against the patriots. The Americans are training and directing the troops of the puppet regime, are arming them to the teeth, and are increasing military aid. However, all this yields no results.

The Salvadoran Army is suffering one defeat after another in the war against the patriotic forces. The morale of the government troops is falling. They have been taken prisoner more and more often of late and in larger numbers. In January alone over 150 soldiers laid down their weapons. An AP correspondent quotes a U.S. military expert, who does not wish to be identified. He said: If the situation does not change, the Salvadoran regime will be defeated. The U.S. expert explained: Nothing will happen to the soldiers in the barracks. However, the partisans will establish their control over the entire country. Already, according to the data of the very same agency, the patriots are moving almost unopposed in 800 square miles in northern El Salvador and are making increasingly successful attacks even on the army garrisons in towns. The latest example is the capture of the town of Berlin, which the fighters of the liberation front held for several days.

The victories of the patriots affect the morale not only of government troops but also of representatives of the ruling leadership. They have started to squabble among themselves. Colonel Ochoa started a mutiny in January. He refused to take orders from Minister of Defense Garcia. It has become known now that the leader of the ultra-right-wingers, chairman of the so-called Constitutional Assembly of El Salvador, D'Aubisson, supported the colonel. This hangman longs for power. Rumors are circulating in the capital about a possible reshuffle in the ruling leadership and even about a coup.

Let us remind you that immediately after assuming power the Reagan administration decided to make the problem of El Salvador almost a cornerstone of its policy. They declared in Washington that they are ready to resort to anything to surpress the struggle of the revolutionary forces in that country. By doing so they tried to prove that this struggle is a result of actions by agents of Moscow, Cuba, and Nicaragua.

However, in the past two years it has not been possible to discover any foreign agents, other than the American ones, of course. Despite all the efforts of Washington, the patriotic forces' movement is gaining in strength. The people of that small country gave an object lesson to the Reagan administration. Not everyting in the world occurs as White House imagines or wants.

COMMENTARY ON U.S. ROLE IN CENTRAL AMERICA

LD072101 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 6 Feb 83

[Commentary by political observer Novikov from the Vremya newscast]

[Text] President Reagan's recent statement to the effect that the United States is El Salvador's partner in ensuring peace, prosperity and democracy is still fresh in my memory. Such peace and such democracy have already cost the lives of 30,000 Salvadorans, killed with U.S. weapons. Reagan assured the ruling Salvadoran clique that the United States will help its friends hold out and gain the upper hand. Nevertheless, the rebel movement in El Salvador is growing day by day, embracing an extensive part of the country.

Little El Salvador, declared by the Reagan administration at the beginning of its rule as a touchstone for Washington's foreign policy of force, has become a stumbling block for it. Neither virtually unlimited military aid nor U.S. advisers, Vietnam-trainined specialists in brigandage, have helped. Now the U.S. Administration is making every effort to remove the Salvadoran stumbling block from its path.

But it is not just a matter of El Salvador. Nicaragua, for instance, which it would like to return to the past, is just as dangerous for Washington. Honduras has been picked as a support base; from there it is easy to perform intervention in either of the countries or in both at once, the possibility of which is not excluded by U.S. military men. It is not by chance that thousands of former Somoza guards and mercenaries from other countries have gathered in Honduras, and the Honduran Army is being intensively armed and trained for combat action. Helicopters, aircraft and other combat equipment are being amassed there. According to some sources even posonous substances, the same as those used in Vietnam, are being stockpiled.

The numerous U.S. military bases, the armada of U.S. naval vessels constantly plying the Caribbean, the transfer of a large contigent of U.S. Marines to El Salvador, and the joint U.S.-Honduran Big Pine maneuvers, which are continuing on the border with Nicaragua and which are some of the biggest in the history of the region -- all these are links in one chain. It is not fortuitous that the broadest Latin American public opinion has sounded the alarm.

Let us recall also the recent visits by Reagan to Central America and that of Israeli Foreign Minister [as heard] Sharon to Honduras. Washington and Tel Aviv have found a point of contact in that hemisphere as well, for their aims are similar everywhere. Many Western military observers note that the United States is striving to impose on Honduras the same role that is played by Israel in the Near East. The idea has been suggested more than once to President Reagan: Hasn't the time come to think about making an initiative in Central America like the Near East initiative? Honduras in the role of Israel in Central America -- it is not difficult to imagine, by analogy, what could come of this.

PRAVDA REPORTS TSENTROSOYUZ OFFICIAL REPLACED

PM081755 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Feb 83 First Edition p 2

[TASS-attributed report: "Tsentrosoyuz Council Meeting"]

[Text] Measures to further develop the activity of the consumer cooperative system in light of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) plenums and cooperative workers' work to fulfill the Food Program were examined by the participants in a Tsentrosoyuz council meeting held 8 February.

The report was delivered by N.I. Supotnitskiy, first deputy chairman of the Tsentrosoyuz Board.

An organizational question was examined. A.A. Smirnov was released from the duties of Tsentrosoyuz Board chairman in connection with his reassignment to other work. M.P. Trunov was elected Tsentrosoyuz Board chairman.

I.I. Bodyul, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; YA.I. Kabkov, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Trade and Domestic Services Department; and leaders of a number of ministries and departments participated in the council meeting's work.

PRAVDA URGES IMPROVED PARTY WORK STYLE

PM081545 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jan 83 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Improving the Work Style"]

[Text] The activity of our party and all the country's working people is currently devoted to the struggle to implement the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent party Central Committee plenums. Large and to a considerable extent new tasks have been set in all spheres of economic and social progress. The fulfillment of them depends largely on the standard of party leadership. The times demand of party committees vigorous efforts to improve organizational and political work among the masses.

Paramount importance attaches to the need to improve the quality of the work of party committees and primary party organizations and establish the Leninist style in the activity of all our cadres. It is a matter of mastering the kind of work style which combines dispatch and discipline with the creative approach, with bold initiative and enterprise, the practical and businesslike approach with a striving for big goals, and a critical attitude toward shortcomings with unshakable confidence in the historical advantages of the path we have chosen. If every party organization unswervingly follows these demands its influence on the implementation of the outlined plans will increase even more.

Much is being done by, for example, the Tashkent Obkom to ensure that labor collectives cope efficiently with 5-year plan targets. By the end of each 10-day period the party obkom has data on the work results of every city and rayon, enterprise, kolkhoz and sovkhoz. Steps are promptly taken if work is not proceeding properly. The best experience is consistently propagated. They are waging real struggle against the notorious downward amendment of plans, not just paying lipservice to such a struggle. In 1982 122 enterprises amended plans in this way. But as a result of the principled attitude and persistence of the obkom the plans were restored and the collectives not only managed to avoid hitches, but did their utmost to exceed the targets.

The skill of party leadership is determined first and foremost by concrete practical results. And efficiency and quality of labor are inextricably linked with everyone's initiative and energy.

That is why party committees' most important task is to make working people aware of the simple fact that the fulfillment of all the plans depends on discipline and organization and on everyone's labor contribution.

In order to make efforts more effective it is necessary to correctly determine the chief components and strive for unity of intention and execution. Party committees are currently focusing attention on improving production efficiency and intensifying production. But the transfer of the national economy to this footing, it was noted at the November (1982) plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, has been slow so far. We cannot be content with the low rate of growth in labor productivity. There remains the problem of the uncoordinated development of the raw material and processing sectors. The reduction in the materials-intensive of output has been only slight and there are big losses of raw materials, energy resources and working time. Fulfillment of plans still entails very great expenditure and production costs.

One of the main reasons is shortcomings in leadership. However, some party committees merely call for the imposition of order and stronger discipline without reinforcing their calls with practical action. Not always is there concern for the fulfillment of decisions. It is necessary to observe the rule that a new decision on a particular matter should be taken only when past decisions have been fulfilled or new circumstances have arisen. Verification of execution is of paramount significance in this connection.

The improvement of party organs' work style is closely bound up with the all-round development of collegiality. But collegiality has nothing to do with speechifying, endless discussion of clear issues and unneccessary paperwork. Parasitism and parochialism and attempts to cover up failures in work by citing the notorious objective reasons must be rebuffed. Instances of wishful thinking are particularly intolerable. In addition to other methods of effecting an improvement in work and in the education of cadres, it is important to make better, more accurate and more effective use of the tried and tested method of criticism and self-criticism. There is small value in the kind of talk which merely "sets the air vibrating" without influencing the actual state of affairs at all.

The important element of the leadership and management system represented by information also needs improving. Sometimes people try to compensate for lack of quality with quantity. This means that you have a mass of unnecessary documents circulating, documents which are often fancily presented but do not reflect the real situation. The information going to the party committee and coming from it must be absolutely accurate and businesslike, containing fresh, interesting proposals that can be considered and implemented. And to get a better idea of the local situation it is necessary to further expand contacts with people. Direct contact with them helps one to spot shortcomings more quickly and to accumulate and disseminate experience. Working people's letters and suggestions are of tremendous significance as a live link between the party and the masses. It is the duty of every leader and every party worker to be alert to signals from the grassroots, to people's requests and suggestions.

Party committees are urged to ensure that the Leninist style becomes established in the work of soviet, trade union and Komsomol organs and economic leaders. This means, above all, developing their initiative and enhancing their responsibility. The political methods used by party committees rule out plain administrative meddling and the practice of supplanting the functions of public organizations and economic leaders. But this by no means signifies that they have a right to tolerate formalism and bureaucratism, laxity and other shortcomings, wherever they are manifested.

The style and methods of leadership, the 26th CPSU Congress noted, are a most important matter for every party organization and every committee and for the whole people. It is the direct duty of any party leader to remember this and to always strive to ensure that Leninist norms of party life become the firm rule everywhere.

CPSU SENDS GREETINGS TO DNEPROVSKIY PLANT

PM081421 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Feb 83 Second Edition p 1

[Text] To the participants in the construction and the operators of the oxygen convert shop complex at the F.E. Dzerzhinskiy Dneprovskiy metallurgical plant of the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy.

Dear Comrades:

The CPSU Central Committee warmly congratulates you on a remarkable labor achievement -- the commissioning of the first phase of a major oxygen converter shop complex at the F.E. Dzerzhinskiy Dneprovskiy metallurgical plant.

The erection of the complex, which is equipped with modern machinery, is the start of the retooling of one of our oldest metallurgical enterprises, famed all over the country, and is a substantial contribution to the fulfillment of the 26th CPSU Congress decisions on the high-quality, efficient development of ferrous metallurgy.

It is important that the capacities commissioned are being assimilated successfully and the metallurgists' working conditions are improving. A considerable quantity of housing, schools and children's preschool institutions were constructed alongside the production complex, and these ensure an improvement in the standard of cultural and consumer services to the working people.

The successes achieved result from extensive socialist competition, organization and discipline in labor collectives and purposeful organizational and political work by party, trade union and Komsomol organizations.

The CPSU Central Committee expresses confidence that the construction workers and metallurgists will successfully fulfill the tasks facing them to complete the modernization of this major metallurgical enterprise and ensure the speediest assimilation of the capacities commissioned.

We wish you, dear comrades, new labor successes in the struggle to fulfill the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum and the tasks of the 11th 5-Year Plan, good health and happiness.

CPSU Central Committee

TANJUG REPORTS 'WAVE OF PRICE INCREASES'

LD081412 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1322 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow, Feb. 8 (TANJUG) -- An unannounced wave of price rises covered a series of articles in retail trade in the Soviet Union these last days.

Prices of a number of consumer goods and articles in the so-called luxury sector rose considerably -- by a high percentage.

The price rise also covered building material, technical goods, paper goods, fabrics and the like. All communications tariffs and insurance quotas for motor-cars, household appliances, significantly rose, and new, compulsory insurance of dachas (weekend huts) and all types of buildings on so-called citizens' [words indistinct] also been introduced.

Prices of almost all products in luxury consumption went up - jewelry, crystal glassware, perfumery and haberdashery articles, leather goods and a series of imported articles.

New higher prices of the mentioned and other goods should secure additional resources for the fund from which increased expenditures of sovkhozes and kolkhozes in production of a number of agricultural articles in short supply will be covered.

On the basis of a decision of the plenum of the Soviet party Central Committee of last May, starting with January 1 buy-up prices of the most important agricultural products - meat, milk, sugar-beet, potatoes, all [words indistinct] others, rose by an average of about 30 per cent.

PAPER WRITES ON NEED TO COMBAT CONSUMERISM

PM041525 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 20 Jan 83 p 3

[Article by Eduard Rozental: "Grimaces of Consumerism"]

[Excerpt] Moscow [no date given] -- Consumption is an objective category. What objection can there be to people's desire to have material benefits that make life easier, more comfortable and beautiful?

It is another matter when consumption turns into consumerism, becomes an end in itself and swallows up all man's vital forces. That is the goal pursued by the bourgeois ideologists, using all the might of their progaganda apparatus. Their aim is to extend the phase in the life of society which encloses man's interests primarily within the framework of individualism and grasping consumerism.

We are living at the meeting point between man's prehistory and history and are ourselves witnessing and participating in the fierce battle between the two trends: the consumerist and the creative. The credo of socialism is not only to satisy the material needs of all members of society but also to ensure the total prosperity and free all-around development of the individual. Present-day capitalism cannot answer this challenge, however much it may develop its production forces, because it relies on private ownership and has no truck with the free and all-around development of all members of society. But socialism advances this task as the basic one and sees its solution as the goal of all social development. This is not a task of the remote future, it is being resolved right now.

I have frequently talked with Western sociologists on this subject. Many have been unanimous in acknowledging the seriousness of our economic plans; but as to the possibility of creating a harmonious individual, we could not agree. They asserted that the growth of consumerist tendencies and with them a grasping mentality are a universal law of historical progress and do not depend on the social system. After all, an automobile, television set, refrigerator, washing machine, and so forth, they said, represent items for personal use and this itself sharpens man's personal interests, aggravates his individualistic inclinations, and intensifies the tendency to abandon social problems for strictly personal affairs and consumerism. But here Western sociologist are mixing the two worlds together and extracting something common which reflects the nature of capitalism more.

In the West a petit bourgeois or scrounger is part of the capitalist way of life. After all, the very principle of surplus-value -- the very foundation of capitalism -- is nothing other than speculation on man and his creative efforts and potential elevated to the rank of law. Any speculation, whichever way you turn, objectively generates consumerism and intensifies its grimaces.

In our society there are not and cannot be any objective conditions for the development of a grasping mentality. But that does not mean that we have no manifestations of "consumerism for the sake of consumerism." Omissions in education, bad taste, the poor standard of consumption when a person does not care what he buys as long as it generates envy in those around him and astonishes them with his stunning consumption all have an effect. The only thing is, he surprises no one but impoverishes himself and his personality.

A consumerist mentality left to its own devices can have very far-reaching consequences. In any event its carriers will invariably come into conflict with society, with the Soviet way of life. That is why the task of combating philistinism, money grubbing and other ugly manifestations of consumerism is so topical today. It is being put keenly and uncompromisingly. Struggle! Do not wait for the objective laws of socialism to settle everything for the best.

NURIYEV QUESTIONED ON NEW MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

LD081738 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] The implementation of the Food Program depends on the integrated work of all links of the agroindustrial associations. Special attention was paid to this at the November plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. The editorial board of IZVESTIYA asked Nuriyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the commission of the Presidium of the USSR Council of Ministers for questions of the agroindustrial complex, to reply to a number of questions connected with the new system of management. This dialogue was published under the heading: Formation, Prospects.

RECENT LEADER APPEARANCES, ACTIVITIES REPORTED

Rashidov Addresses Uzbek Plenum

GF081446 Tashkent Domestic Service in Russian 1315 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Excerpts] The 10th plenum of Uzbekistan's Communist Party Central Committee was held on 8 February 1983. Comrade Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of Uzbekistan's Communist Party Central Committee, presented a report on measures for further developing livestock production in the republic through 1983-95 in light of the decisions of the May and November 1982 CPSU Central Committee plenum.

Comrade Rashidov delivered the final speech. Corresponding resolutions were adopted on questions discussed. The plenum adopted measures for further developing livestock production in the republic through 1983-85.

Comrade Kruchina, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chief of the Agricultural Department of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Antonov, USSR minister of meat and dairy industry; Comrade Belyak, USSR minister of machine building for animal husbandry and fodder production; and Comrade Vasilyev, USSR minister of land reclamation and water resources, participated in the work of the plenum. At the end of the plenum, the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee concluded its work.

Aliyev Addresses River Workers

LD090001 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 8 Feb 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] An extended session of the Collegium of the RSFSR Ministry of River Fleet and of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Trade Union of Maritime and River Fleet Workers took place in Moscow today. Leaders of shipping lines, basin directorates, waterways, canals, ports and plants and production front-rankers took part. A report on the results of the industry's work during 1982 and on measures to ensure fulfillment of the plan for the current year in light of the decisions of the November 1982 CPSU Central Committee plenum and the provisions and conclusions contained in the plenum speech by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov was delivered by Comrade Bagrov, RSFSR minister of river fleet. The session analyzed the state of affairs in river transportation. Specific measures were outlined to eliminate existing shortcomings. The session was addressed by Comrade Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. Comrade Simonov, head of a CPSU Central Committee department, USSR ministers and other comrades took part in the work of the Collegium session.

Shevardnadze at Newspaper's Meeting

LD090356 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2050 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] The ZARYA VOSTOKA newspaper, the 60th anniversary of whose first issue has been marked by the people of the republic, has become a reliable aid of the party orgnaization in Georgia. To mark the occasion a festive meeting was held in Tbilisi which was attended by Comrade Shevardnadze, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia.

Shevardnadze Chairs Development Group

PM041437 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 16 Jan 83 p 1

[GRUZINFORM report: "The Aim Is To Improve Production Management"]

[Excerpt] A session of the working group to enhance the efficiency of the development of particularly important sectors and enterprises in the republic in the current 5-year plan has been held at the Georgian CP Central Committee.

Opening the session, the working group's leader, E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee, noted that new forms and methods of controlling this process promote the successful implementation of the national economic plan. One of the administrative innovations which emerged in the republic over a year ago is the organization of close collaboration between all-union ministries and republican organs, the implementation of measures to develop a sector or large-scale industrial enterprises jointly elaborated and jointly implemented by the efforts of republican and all-union organs.

B.D. Makharashvili, chief of the Georgian CP Central Committee Industry Department, delivered a report on the course of the fulfillment of these dual measures.

Reports were also heard from V.T. Gogoladze, Georgian SSR minister of construction; A.S. Giorkhelidze, Georgian SSR first deputy minister of higher and secondary specialized education; S.T. Rigvava, chairman of the republic's State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education; R.A. Dzhaparidze, chairman of the Georgian SSR State Committee for Labor; G.D. Gabuniya, first secretary of the Tbilisi Georgian CP Gorkom; G.Ye. Chigoridze, second secretary of the Adzhar Obkom; A.A. Shavlokhov, deputy chairman of the South Osetian Oblispolkom; N.D. Rukhadze, first secretary of the Kutaisi Gorkom; R.M. Georgadze, first secretary of the Rustavi Gorkom; T.V. Kunchuliya, first secretary of the Lanchkhutskiy Raykom.

The working group session was addressed by G.V. Kolbin, second secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee.

Taking part in the work of the group session were comrades D.I. Kartvelishvili, Z.A. Chkheidze and I.N. Ordzhonikidze and leading party, soviet and economic workers.

Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze summed up the results of the working group session.

Solomentsev Chairs Farming Meeting

PM021645 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Jan 83 Morning Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "At the RSFSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] At its 24 January session the RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium examined questions connected with realizing the Food Program.

In particular, the following reports were heard and discussed:

-- By V.N. Khokhlov, chief of the Kostromamelioratsiya association of the Main Administration for Water Resources Construction in the Nonchernozem Zone, on the state of and measures to strengthen labor discipline, to improve organization and raise labor productivity in that association's water resources organizations;

-- By A.I. Prudov, director of the All-Russian Scientific Research Institute of Pedigree Breeding, on the effectiveness of the scientific research work being done in that institute and the introduction of new highly productive breeds, pedigree lines and hybrids of livestock in the livestock units of the republic's kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

The Presidium adopted corresponding decisions on the questions discussed.

The Presidium session was chaired by M.S. Solomentsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers.

NEW UZBEK MINISTER OF CONSUMER SERVICES APPOINTED

[WA081000] [Editorial Report] Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian on 15 January carries on page 1 a 50-word decree of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium appointing Vitaliy Pavlovich Kuksenko to the post of Uzbek minister of consumer services. It was noted on page 3 that the former minister of consumer services, Anna Ivanovna Brodova, retired.

QUESTIONS FROM LISTENER IN U.S. ANSWERED

LD040550 Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 30 Jan 83

["Moscow Mailbag" presented by Jo Adamov, who answers questions from a listener in California]

[Excerpts] [Question] The socialist system does not respond to all the market's demands. Does this not encourage black market?

[Answer] I am not going to deny that there is a small, what you might call black market. People do try to buy, say, American jeans -- I don't know why they want American jeans, because we have jeans from several countries, including Soviet jeans, [chuckles] and personally, I don't think they are very much worse -- or maybe a sheepskin coat that is very much in the vogue today; or some very fancy imported shoes. You'll find this sort of stuff sometimes sold from under the counter. But you should see the campaign in our press against this sort of thing. I am sure there will be an end put to it very soon.

It is not the socialist system that is to blame. Given a little more time, I am sure we'll meet the demands of the market. Sometimes it is due to some bureaucrat's faulty planning, people not doing their job, forgetting about their duties to the customer, and so on. You forget that in the 40 years -- I say 40 because at least 20 or 25 years of our existence was spent either in the civil war or the Second World War and its aftermath, I mean the rehabilitation, the actual resurrection, and rebuilding after the war -- well in those about 40 years we traversed the path from the wooden plow to the space age. Mind you, when we were born 80 percent of the people couldn't even sign their names. Then if the socialist system could give every family a television set, a radio, a refrigerator and, I suppose, practically every family a washing machine and so on, guaranteed work according to one's experience and desires, and so many social advantages of which we speak many times on our programs, I am absolutely sure that the socialist system which you mention will take care of the other things too, if it could do what I have just listed.

[Question] Do socialists see any positive aspects of capitalism?

[Answer] Well, I suppose they do. I remember even in Lenin's time it was stressed that the capitalist system is efficient, in the way of running its business. Today we stress the same thing; we talk about the productivity of labor under capitalism. We certainly give them credit for their know-how in various fields, in technology, in agriculture. But I am sure that you can learn just as much from us too, technically speaking, because the United States, you know, has bought more Soviet licenses for the production of various products than we have bought American licenses. I think (?that's certainly) the first answer. Given a bit more time, I think we'll prove which system will give the majority of its people more of the good things of life. And that (?is just) the field in which we should compete, certainly not in the arms race.

[Question] What are the ideological differences between the Soviet Union and the PRC?

[Answer] There have been many differences in the past, in fact too many to enumerate. But last year there was a tendency towards the normalization of relations. We have always said, and we say today, that we are for bettering relations with the PRC, which is a socialist state. Now General Secretary Hu Yaobang said that Sino-Soviet relations would follow a path of healthy development. Yet some of the statements by the Chinese media and the leaders surprise us, to say the least. They continue attacking various aspects of Soviet policy, they persist in their territorial claims, referring to nonexisting unequal treaties signed under tsarist Russia; territories which never were part of the Chinese state and which never were inhabited by Chinese.

We belive that it is time we concluded our talks on the border. All unequal treaties of old Russia were done away with by the Soviet Government. This was noted by Sun Yat-sen and Mao Zedong, incidentally. And finally, what if every world capital started publishing maps of lost territories?

[Question] What are the origins of the cold war from the Soviet perspective?

[Answer] Well, if you look into our textbooks you will find that the Western powers, the United States in particular, started immediately after the war to base their policies with regard to the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries on the position of strength principle. This marked the beginning of the so-called cold war, which was waged by the Western powers against our country and the socialist countries. Don't forget the notorious speech made by Churchill in the presence of President Truman in Fulton, Missouri, in March 1946, which provided a virtual program for this cold war. And after the Fulton speech, the United States, together with the other Western countries, carried out a number of measures directed against the countries of the socialist camp and measures aimed at restoring capitalism in the socialist countries. The West wanted to stop the socialist countries from working together with the Soviet Union, and the West obstructed the growth and consolidation of progressive forces in some of the countries of Western Europe too, particularly in France and in Italy. Besides, the cold war policy made itself felt in the decision to set up an embargo on trade with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, naturally, and in other efforts to break off commercial and cultural relations between the capitalist and the socialist countries, something that rings a bell, something very reminiscent of what is being done today.

[Question] Is the Radio Moscow signal beamed via a satellite?

[Answer] No, it is not, but we use transmitters in various parts of the country both east and west, naturally.

[Question] What are the goals of Radio Moscow?

[Answer] I think it is to tell you about the various aspects of Soviet life, life in this country. I think some of our features speak for themselves. "The Soviet Way of Life" is one of them. "What Is Communism"; "Science and Engineering." It is also our aim to give you the Soviet point of view on international affairs. There are numerous commentaries on world affairs. It is our aim to explain our peace initiatives, which are certainly being played down in the West. And I think one can safely say that those who have been listening to us regularly see things in a different perspective. They know many facts they never knew about before. That certainly makes for better understanding. I think that is the basic goal, better understanding.

[Question] How many North American listeners tune in to Radio Moscow?

[Answer] That is the 64,000 [chuckles] dollar question and I know a professor at the University of Massachusets who is trying to find out what the shortwave audience is in the United States. I think it is very difficult to say; some people will tell you there are 12 million shortwave sets in the United States, but how many of them are tuned in every night nobody knows.

[Question] Why was there a delay in the announcement of the death of Leonid Brezhnev?

[Answer] I think one can say that it is, well, a sort of a custom, shall we say. Usually, sad announcements of this kind are given the day after, as a rule; and I think if you look back when the deaths occurred of other top officials, it was the same thing -- so this was no exception.

[Question] Now Lenin's actual name was Ulyanov. What was the reason for the change?

[Answer] Well, I think you realize Lenin had to spend a lot of his time hiding from the tsar's police underground; he was in emigration. This was his pen name. I understand he had (?something) like 100, even more, various pen names.

[Question] Is rock music popular with the Soviet youth?

[Answer] Yes, a professor from the University of Minnesota was at my house once and asked me the same question and my answer to him was to flick on the television set and there, as background music, was some rock music. Then I switched to another channel and there was a group playing good old rock music and a few [words indistinct]. And I think that is the anwer to your question.

[Question] Is Josef Stalin applauded in the Soviet Union?

[Answer] Well I wouldn't say he is applauded, no, but certainly you can't deny the fact that he was at the helm when the country was turned into a leading industrial power from an economically backward country, that he stood at the helm when we defeated Nazi Germany. He certainly can be given credit for heading the struggle against the enemies of Leninism. But of course, there is the other side to Stalin, which is very sad indeed. He began to depart from the principles of Lenin of collective leadership, he began to depart from the norms of party life, and I suppose the world does know that he committed particularly grave errors in the last years of his life. There were unjustified limitations of socialist democracy, flagrant violations of our legality, and of course the unfounded repressions. And, something that came to light in recent years, that he was blind to the fact that the war would break out in June 1941, although he was warned many times. These things you of course cannot deny.

[Question] Karl Marx explained history as an evolution from feudalism to capitalism, to socialism, to communism. Will the cycle also move from communism back to feudalism?

[Answer] Do you believe that mankind will move back from homo sapiens to the dinosaurs? I don't think so. Neither will I think that communism will go back to feudalism.

[Question] Why is Bulgaria not a member of the Warsaw Pact?

[Answer] Well, where did you get that idea from? Bulgaria has been a very faithful member of the Warsaw Pact from its very inception.

Well, I hope we helped you to clear up some of your misconceptions about the Soviet Union, although you have written to us that they were sent in good faith. I believe you.

PRAVDA 'BUSINESS CLUB' DISCUSSES TRANSPORT

PM071051 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 27 January in the Second Edition publishes on page 2 a full-page feature under the rubric "PRAVDA Business Club," headed "Transport and the Economy." The question of "improving the work of all types of transport so that they do not hold back the development of the national economy and the implementation of plans for the country's economic and social development" was reportedly the subject of the latest session of the PRAVDA Business Club, with the participation of "leaders of the USSR Gosplan, ministries and departments, scientists and specialists in transport."

The feature includes a 4,500-word unattributed report of the discussion at the Business Club session on measures to improve various types of transport arising from the recent CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution on transport. Speakers include V. Biryukov, deputy chairman of the USSR Gosplan; N. Konarev, USSR minister of railways; RSFSR ministers in the transport sphere, economists, scientists and officials from various branches of transport. Konarev's contribution is reported as follows:

"Of course, nobody can take away the responsibility from us railmen for the timely delivery of freight to the consumers, said N. Konarev, minister of railways, joining in the conversation. But this responsibility must be mutual. Concern about what to ship, where to ship it and how much to ship must be shared by those who plan shipments and those who produce, deliver and consume the output. Only on this condition will every freightcar really 'work' to full capacity and without superfluous, unnecessary runs.

"In his speech at the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum Comrade Yu.V. Andropov subjected the work of railroad transport to severe, justified criticism. The mainlines are still not supplying the country's requirements for shipments, despite considerable capital investments in their development.

"The first conclusion we drew from the plenum decisions is that we cannot go on working like that. The shipments plan, which reflects the requirements of the national economy, must be fulfilled in all circumstances. That is the main point, and it must be unshakable.

"One reason for the railroads' poor work is that a high standard of organization has not been set against the difficult conditions which have emerged. Instead of the energetic utilization of potential, there has been too much talk about the laggardness of transport in relations to the growth of shipments. We believe it necessary to put an end to consumerist sentiments, strengthen discipline at all levels and make better use of what we have. Some psychological reorganization is also necessary, in order to fulfill unconditionally the concrete, essential requirement -- to provide rolling stock in good time to satisfy the requirements of every enterprise, every dispatcher of freight. The potential for this exists, as is indicated by the experience of leading collectives."

The other participants go on to discuss avenues of improvement in railroad and river transport, and the feature concludes with the following summary by V. Parfenov and G. Yastrebtsov, under the heading "Proposals and Conclusions":

"Having exchanged opinions on how to improve the work of transport, for all the diversity of their views on the problem the participants in the session were unanimous on the main point. Since transport is a single component in the national economic complex, particular attention must be devoted to establishing efficient collaboration among transport sectors and to strengthening their ties with other sectors of the economy. Who should be concerned with this in practice? Naturally, the USSR Gosplan section alone cannot cope with this.

"Therefore the participants in the session believe it is necessary to think about creating an organ which could coordinate and direct the work of all types of transport and the ministries and departments concerned.

"The main task for transport set by the 26th CPSU Congress is the complete, timely satisfaction of the requirements of the national economy and the population for shipments. Its resolution will be promoted in practice by the implementation of CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution on improving the planning and organization of shipments. The participants in the PRAVDA Business Club, noting the great significance of this document, came out in favor of the practical implementation of its provisions as quickly as possible.

"It is now very important to study this document in depth both in the management sphere and in every collective of transport workers: not only to study it, but to elaborate practical measures which will help us to transfer to new methods of work rapidly. Appropriate normative acts are already being elaborated in central departments. It is necessary to strive to ensure that the methodologies and provisions drawn up are simple, not too unwieldy, and are comprehensively to every worker. Most important, their implementation must not be drawn out for years.

"In this connection the following historical fact is worth recalling. In late 1919 an important decree of the Soviet of People's Commissars came out, 'On Reorganizing the Accounting of Freight Shipments by the Railroads and on Changing the Procedure for Authorizing Claims for Shipments.' On reading it now, one is struck by the accuracy and simplicity of this document. The last item in the decree indicated the date of its promulgation. The decree was signed by V.I. Lenin on 29 December 1919, and came into force on 1 January 1920."

"The participants in the discussion reached the common view that more harmonious, purposeful use should be made of all means of delivering freight and all types of transport. Acting on the basis of concrete conditions, it is necessary to be bolder in transferring steady flows of freight from rail to water and to hand over short-distance shipments to the truckers. It is necessary to give freight owners an economic interest in this and to change tariffs for shipments. New, specialized types of transport, in particular pipelines, must be developed even more actively. They could take on a considerable proportion of deliveries of coal, ore, mineral fertilizers and other free-flowing bulk goods to consumers. Such experience exists in the country. It must be applied in practice more rapidly.

"The participants in the meeting were united in the view that more attention must be devoted to the development of railroad transport. This is all the more necessary in that the construction of track has slowed down in recent years. Whereas in the period 1960-1970 the operational length of railroads increased by 9,400 km, in the next decade it increased by only 6,600 km.

"On the other hand, it is just as important to do everything possible to ensure that existing track works steadily and efficiently. This requires implementation of the effective reserve of strengthening discipline and organization in all components of the transport conveyor belt. Transport should operate with clockwork accuracy.

"It should be noted yet again that the main reserves for speeding up freightcar turnaround are in the railmen's own hands. Now that the ton-kilometer 'sword of Damocles' will no longer be hanging over transport workers' heads, they must be more resolute in reducing freightcar runs by circuitous routes and eliminate other nonrational shipments more rapidly. Every freightcar carrying a load should move faster toward its destination and spend less time standing idle in sidings and dead-end tracks, at the junctions of railroad sections, at loading points and at depots.

"To this end the efficiency of all operational work must be increased, the loading and unloading complex renewed in a planned way and all the components of autonomous financing -- profit, prime cost, price and other economic levers and incentives -- made to 'work' more actively in transport.

"These are, so to speak, strategic reserves. But tactical reserves must also be brought into play. It is time not just to talk about leading experience but to introduce everywhere the latest achievements of science and technology and the best methods of collaboration between all types of transport, following the Leningraders' example. Truckers should be bolder in utilizing the experience accumulated over the last two 5-year plan periods by the collective of the Moscow Gorispolkom Main Administration of Motor Transport and also by the Belorussian truckers.

"In the conditions of the socialist planned economy, it is necessary and quite possible to ensure that the country's unified transport system works efficiently and reliably, supplying the national economy with all it needs in good time."

MOSCOW TV DISCUSSES MANAGEMENT, LABOR ISSUES

OW090449 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 0625 GMT 15 Jan 83

["Political Observer's Talk" program moderated by political observer Lev Aleksandrovich Voznesenskiy, with Professor Rem Aleksandrovich Belousov, chief of the economics and bases of scientific management of the National Economy Department of the CPSU Central Committee]

[Excerpts] [intercepted in progress] [Belousov] ...for 1983 is no longer simply a program, but as a rule also concrete and intensive actions. We are talking about a certain turning point in our development, because in the development of the entire 5-year plan period much depends on how the 1963 [as heard] plan is fulfilled.

As you know a certain lag occurred in the outlined path of our development during the previous 2 years and this created additional difficulties both in the solution of major social problems as well as in the solution of other urgent tasks of our development. Presently development must be accelerated, the rate of economic growth must be increased and the scale of growth of the national income must be expanded.

In order to create the prerequisites for solving the intense tasks of 1983, the independence of enterprises and of kolkhoz and sovkhoz heads and construction project managers must be expanded. Recently I talked to many directors and chairmen of kolkhozes, and as a rule the majority of them consider that first they should be given the opportunity to take a big step, to show initiative and creativity.

Unfortunately, until recently, despite the fact that everybody recognizes this, little has been done. It is no coincidence that the November 1982 plenum reaffirmed that we must actually solve questions of expanding the independence of primary links of our production. The central organs should be relieved of their load and the enterprises [khozyaystva], namely the primary links where the material and cultural wealth and the national income is in reality being created, should be given the opportunity to maneuver resources themselves and to adopt many decisions themselves, and in particular to adjust direct interenterprise ties as well, herein lies the meaning, the economic meaning, of independence.

There is another aspect here: the social aspect. People who only have to fulfill orders from above, of course, will work with less energy and less efficiency. When the collective and the manager feel that there is a possibility for flexibility, for freedom and creativity, then additional energy is created.

This means that efficiency increases and the useful return from every collective and every enterprise grows. But now, as I have already said, these questions are being solved with difficulty; inertia is far too strong. Here is an example: The May plenum reaffirmed, and not for the first time, that kolkhozes and sovkhozes should be given broad independence in solving questions of how, when and what to sow, and how to turn out products. It is important that they fulfill the procurement and purchase plans for agricultural products. But we already know cases when after the May plenum it was demanded from a farm leader that he cut hay by a specified date despite the foul weather outside, which resulted in the hay actually being wasted. At any rate, quality decreased, and the effect of this "centralized" management was not positive at all, but negative.

But independence is only one side of organization; its other side is high responsibility and discipline. The fact is that each enterprise and each farm is bound to its subcontractors by not tens but hundreds or even thousands of very strong ties. A modern machine building plant receives approximately 3-5,000 parts from its subcontractors. A few hundred enterprises thus become its partners in cooperation and in producing the final product. It is sufficient to have one breakdown in any one of the links for obstacles and breaks to spread over the entire long chain. Therefore, the responsibility for the work being done smoothly, in accordance with set tasks and norms, objectively supplements the independence of economic links, labor collectives and management. Moreover, it is wrong to understand responsibility as just meaning increasing punishments, fines and sanctions against violators.

Responsibility is a system which in many ways must be recreated. We are talking about the fact that labor collectives and management must first of all clearly know their functions, duties and rights. Responsibility stems from this. Unfortunately now our higher bodies frequently interfere in internal affairs of a plant, a construction project or a kolkhoz. They think they can see better from the top. However, these are only the words from a song; in reality any manager of course knows the situation at his own work place better. Being aware of his functions, duties and rights, he himself must solve these questions.

The second very important element in the creation of a responsibility system is the clear definition of criteria and indicators. What should be done in a given enterprise, kolkhoz or construction project? This is not a simple thing. I have already said that at times a kolkhoz chairman is required to cut hay by a specified date, because the entire rayon reached a certain level while he lagged behind. But this is not the main thing. The end product is needed. Milk is needed; meat and bread are needed; hay is not the end product at all. The same is true for a factory. Frequently the fulfillment of a plan for castings and forgings is required. This can be solved by an enterprise itself. An enterprise should be responsible for the end results, for timely deliveries to their subcontractors, for quality and assortment, and for the minimum cost in achieving these end results.

Naturally the third element in the responsibility system is the creation of appropriate accounting, control and analysis in the fulfillment of a specified function and evaluation of them by the criteria and indicators prescribed beforehand. Only after an assessment is made for the work can one talk about encouragement or sanctions. Only such mechanism of responsibility can give high results and raise the quality of work and quality of the management.

I must say that it is possible in practice to frequently come across a situation where the manager chooses between independence and responsibility, or that which is more important for him. I must admit that frequently the manager prefers to give up responsibility and to reject independence. It is shown in practice that frequently a director of an enterprise, having come across a difficult problem whose solution is within his scope, asks the higher bodies for help or, as it is frequently said, for advice.

In essence the question is one of transfering responsibility to the higher bodies and dragging them into solving the problem that the manager should solve himself.

[Voznesenskiy] Well, comrades, I would like to conclude our talk which began last Saturday and was continued in the discussion today with three ideas. First, the public of the country who began putting things in order and increasing the level of responsibility and discipline are receiving for this work ever more stable, legal and organizational bases. In December last year a decree of the U.S. Supreme Soviet Presidium was adopted in intensifying the struggle against petty theft of state or public property. A new provision in the Criminal Code on increased punishments for parasitism and indolence became effective on 1 January. Active measures to combat violations of the norms of the socialist society, petty theft, mismanagement, waste, inflated production figures [pripski], deceit and similar expressions of an anti-social character are outlined at the meetings of representatives of enterprises, collectives, institutions, legal and housing bodies of Moscow. It all depends on the further consolidation of legal and organizational bases of all this work.

Second, while fighting for discipline and order let us strive to do good with one hand while avoiding doing evil with the other. Let's say that it is possible and necessary to organize the timely arrival at work of an entire collective. If, however, at the same time a work program is not ensured for them, or if their work progress is accompanied by all kinds of mismanagement or if deliberate substandard products are produced or certain inflated accounts are made and so on, then such a struggle for discipline cannot be called anything but its reverse: a virtual undermining of the very principles on which our socialist labor discipline is being built. Here an active and really tangible improvement of our economic mechanism can play a huge, if not decisive role.

Third, the formation and strengthening of social discipline conscientiousness takes place under the influence of many economic factors and other aspects of public life. Therefore, it is necessary for us to achieve discipline and order, without putting it off, to actively work in developing these very factors and particularly on a clear definition of the rights and duties of every link in our economic organism and a strict observance of both, that is, both rights and duties, and self-reliance and responsibilities of leaders of labor collectives and individual workers. For this, and only this, can create a solid basis for the permanent growth of conscientious labor, state and any other discipline. We want to achieve a new upsurge in the country's economy and accelerate its development. It was Lenin who considered precisely the rise of discipline of the working people -- comrade discipline, as he called it -- the ability to work, labor intensiveness and better labor organization, as the conditions for economic growth.

I would like to end this talk with the immortal words of Vladimir Ilich: What is needed now is a continuation and strengthening of that discipline which we require in all industries. Let the comrades remember this and they will achieve at their work places the complete subjection of all to one basic task. Proletarian labor discipline must be brought to the highest level of effort, and then we will be invincible.

All the best.

PRAVDA ON TYUMEN OBLAST POWER SHORTAGE

PM041433 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 21 January in the Second Edition carries on page 2 a 2,000-word article entitled "Put Out of Their Stride" by correspondent V. Lisin, writing from Tyumen and Moscow. Lisin asserts that Tyumen Oblast is suffering a power shortage because "existing power industry capacities cannot cope" with demand. The construction of power stations, designed to make up the shortfall, is suffering delays, for which the Ministry of Power and Electrification and the USSR Gosplan are blamed in part.

Lisin cites G. Tikhonov, deputy minister of power and electrification, who points to poor administrative and organizational arrangements in developing industrial associations and calls for a "concentration of effort" to develop the West Siberian fuel and energy complex.

'SHCHEKINO EXPERIMENT' RESULTS VIEWED

LD042015 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 4 Feb 83

[From the Vremya newscast: Correspondent Aleksandr Tikhomirov interview with Ivan Khartinovich Yunak, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Tula Obkom, carried during film report examining conditions at the Shchekino Azot nitrogen production association -- recorded]

[Text] [Yunak] While production in the Shchekino Azot association per worker over the past year has amounted to R37,000, in the All-Union Administration of the Nitrogen Industry it amounts to R29,600. This is indeed considerably less than in the combine, even though wages in the Shchekino Azot association are considerably lower than wages in the industry. In the industry wages are higher while production is lower.

[Question] Is it really possible to work in this way, to perfect the Shchekino experience, when they are placed in such conditions?

[Answer] As you are aware -- you have been at the chemical combine -- the Azot association had slightly over 7,000 workers at the start of the introduction of the Shchekino experiment. During these years they have released some 2,000 men and now they have been told: If you go, if only by a single worker, below 5,000 workers, you will at once come under another, the lowest category of staff charter wages and other conditions. Well this is an absurdity. By working better, you will have unpleasantness, you will be worse off like the workers of the Shchekino chemical combine, Shchekino Azot production association. I would like to repeat that the holding back of this method is being done not by the collective but by the ministry, by the USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems, and by the planning organs. This simply demands a most serious reprimand and condemnation, for the obstacle in this issue is stagnation and inertness of thought. One has to get down really with a will to solving those questions that need to be solved.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR 4-8 FEBRUARY

LD090216 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 4-8 February. Times of broadcasts are given in parenthese at the end of each item.

4 February

In Kaluga Oblast the overhaul of soil preparation and sowing equipment has been completed, Over 90 percent of the oblast's grain harvesting combines have been prepared for work. In Pavlodar Oblast, the rate of snow retention work has been increased after the recent blizzards. Snow retention has been completed on an area of 1.6 million hectares to date. This is exactly half of the planned total. (0700 GMT)

Snow retention has been carried out on 50,000 hectares in the Mari Nonchernozem Zone. (0830 GMT)

5 February

The development of virgin lands has been completed in Shirabad steppe in Uzbekistan. Almost 100,000 hectares of pastureland have been brought into farm use. Shirabad steppe has become a reliable base for developing the production of valuable finefiber varieties of cotton. (0800 GMT)

In Altay Kray 43,000 Caterpillar and wheeled tractors, or 80 percent of the existing fleet, are ready for fieldwork. For lack of spare parts from the Yaroslavl Avtodizel association, nearly 30 percent of the powerful Kirov tractors cannot be repaired on time. These tractors first start spring work in the steppes. (1630 GMT)

6 February

Today farmers of the Shirakskaya steppe in Georgia started sowing barley, oats and rye. First to go into the fields were workers of (?Tsiteli-Tskaro) Rayon, the main producer of grain in the republic. (1500 GMT)

8 February

Sowing of early spring crops has begun in the foothills and valleys of the Kuban region. Making use of the warm weather, sowers have begun to sow peas, oats and perennial grasses. Machinery is being utilized in two shifts. (1100 GMT)

In Saratov Oblast almost 1.5 million tons of organic fertilizers were spread on the fields in January. Spring crops will occupy 4.5 million hectares. Farms in Issyk-Kul Oblast have become the first in Kirghizia to complete preparations of seeds for wheat and barley for the spring sowing. All sowing materials are in very good condition. In all more than 50,000 quintals of seeds have been prepared in the republic. That is 90 percent of demand. Farms in Ozh Oblast are behind in preparing seeds. Farmers in the south of Kirghizia are to be the first to start sowing. (1200 GMT)

In the Vakhsh valley of Tajikistan, farms have begun sowing fodder crops. Beets are now being planted, to be followed by lucerne and corn. Fodder crops will occupy a total of around 100,000 hectares in the republic. In Kustanay Oblast snow retention is now being conducted on the 4 millionth 7 hectare. (1400 GMT)

MID-JANUARY WEATHER, CROP STATUS REVIEWED

PM011515 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 23 Jan 83 p 3

[USSR hydrometeorological center report by Agrometeorologist A. Grishina: "The Weather and the Crops"]

[Text] In the second 10 days of January unusually mild weather persisted over the entire European territory of the USSR. The average air temperature was 5-12 degrees higher than the average over many years. The daytime temperature rose to 2-6 degrees above zero, while in the southwest Ukraine and North Caucasus it rose to 8-11 degrees. The nighttime temperature over most of the territory did not drop below minus 3-8 degrees.

Snow fell everywhere. As of 20 January the depth of the snow mantle was mostly 5-15 cm north of a line running through Vilnius, Gomel, Chernigov, Belgorod, Rossosh, Borisoglebsk (Voronezh Oblast), Nizhniy Chir and Kamyshin (Volgograd Oblast) and 20-35 cm or more in the northeast European part of the USSR. The minimum soil temperature at the depth of the tillering node of the winter grain crops ranged from zero to minus 2 degrees.

In Moldavia, the southern half of the Ukraine, Krasnodar Kray and individual rayons of Stavropol Kray and the south of Astrakhan Oblast there was no snow mantle on the fields sown to winter crops.

It was milder than usual in Kazakhstan and West Siberia. The average temperature over the 10 days was 6-11 degrees higher than the average over many years. The maximum temperature was minus 1-3 degrees and in south Kazakhstan it rosed to 6-11 degrees above zero. In West Siberia the winter grain crops were under a snow mantle mostly 25-35 cm deep. The minimum soil temperature at the depth of the winter crops' tillering nodes remained at minus 3-8 degrees.

The mild weather is persisting in the Central Asian republics. In south Turkmenia and Uzbekistan the daytime temperature rose to 19-21 degrees. The winter grain crops have now resumed vegetation. Precipitation over most the territory was insignificant. Only in Surkhan-Darya and Syr-Darya Oblasts and in Tajikistan did precipitation over the 10 days amount to 11-30 mm.

AIR FORCE GENERAL DIES IN 'TRAGIC CIRCUMSTANCES'

PM081355 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Jan 83 Second Edition p 4

[Obituary of N.A. Anisimov]

[Text] Air Force Major General Nikolay Andreyevich Anisimov has died in tragic circumstances. We have lost an experienced military airmen and skilled instructor of air fighters who devoted his life to selfless service to the Soviet people and the cause of the Communist Party, of which he had been a member since 1961.

N.A. Anisimov was born on 31 May 1937 in the village of Oshurkovo, Kurgan Oblast. In 1955 he joined the Armed Forces. After graduating from military pilots' school in 1957 he served in the Air Force. Three generations of winged combat vehicles and thousands of hours in the sky mark the bright pages of Air Force Maj Gen N.A. Anisimov's career.

In 1969 N.A. Anisimov graduated from the command faculty of the Yu.A. Gagarin Military Air Academy. In responsible command posts, military Pilot First Class N.A. Anisimov persistently handed on all his knowledge and high combat skill to the young airmen. He took an active part in party and sociopolitical work.

The motherland assessed N.A. Anisimov's services at their worth, awarding him the Order of the Red Star, the "For Service to the Motherland in the USSR Armed Forces" Order Second and Third Class, and many medals.

The bright memory of Nikolay Andreyevich Anisimov, loyal son of the Communist Party and the socialist motherland, will remain forever in our hearts.

P.S. Kutakhov, L.L. Batekhin, A.N. Yefimov, G.P. Skorikov, V.V. Reshetnikov, S.V. Golubev, V.Z. Skubillin, V.S. Loginov, A.N. Volkov, N.G. Shishkov, V.I. Kuzovov, P.D. Novitskiy.

MILITARY MEDICAL OFFICER DIES 'SUDDENLY'

PM081347 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Feb 83 First Edition p 4

[Obituary of V.A. Barannik]

[Excerpts] Major General Vladimir Alekseyevich Barannik of the medical service has died suddenly at the age of 54. He devoted his entire life to the selfless service of the motherland and the cause of the Communist Party, whose ranks he joined in 1955.

V.A. Barannik was born in 1928 in the village of Boromlya, Trostyanetskiy Rayon, Sumy Oblast, into a family of peasants. On graduating in 1954 from medical institute military medicine faculty, he served in the armed forces and progressed from military unit doctor to chief of the Belorussian Military District medical service. For the last 5 years he was head of the USSR Defense Ministry Central Military Medical Commission.

S.K. Kurkotkin, P.I. Sysoyev, I.M. Golushko, P.S. Rozhkov, F.I. Komarov, Ye.A. Kovalev, I.A. Yurov, K.V. Fedorov, Ye.I. Borisov, V.V. Gradoselskiy, V.A. Pribytkov, I.V. Sipopalnikov, R.I. Arbuzov, L.M. Kiselev.